JULY 78
WARREN GREENWOOD'S
SPACE DOG™
#1
THE GREENWOOD ORGANIZATION
$1.00
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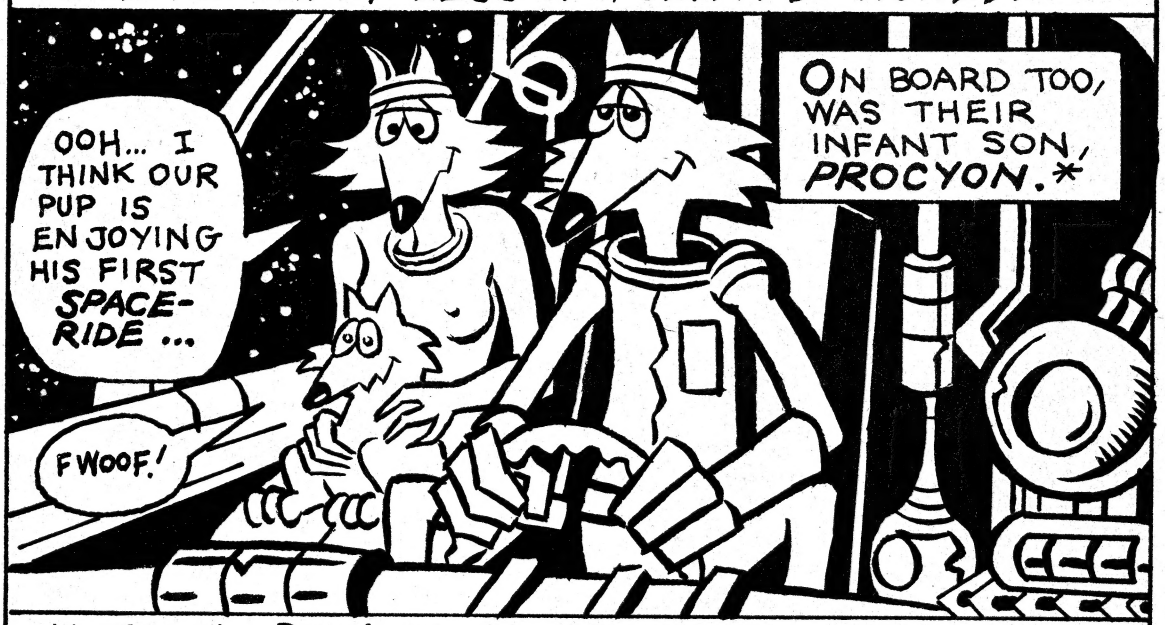
"LO! A DOG OF SPACE!"

BY WARREN GREENWOOD

WILL POWER. WITH STRENGTH OF WILL YOU CAN DO ANYTHING. WITH WILL POWER YOU CAN DETERMINE YOUR DESTINY.
- BOB DYLAN

ONCE UPON A TIME, IN A DISTANT CORNER OF THE UNIVERSE, A STARSHIP STREAKED LIKE A NEEDLE THRU THE BLACKNESS.

THE SHIP WAS PILOTED BY TWO EXPLORERS, A CANINE COUPLE FROM THE OVERCROWDED DOG-STAR SYSTEM OF SIRIUS, VOYAGING TO COLONIZE ANOTHER, LESS-POPULATED WORLD.

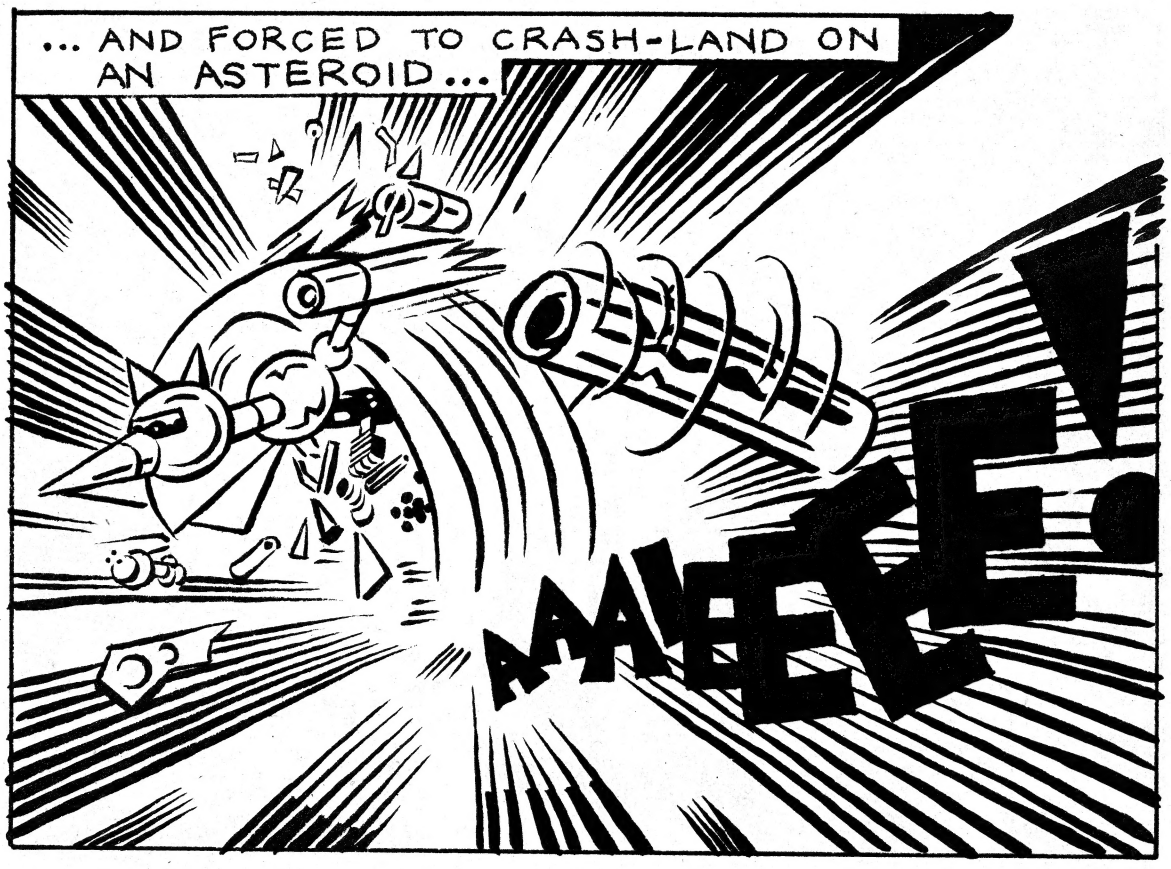


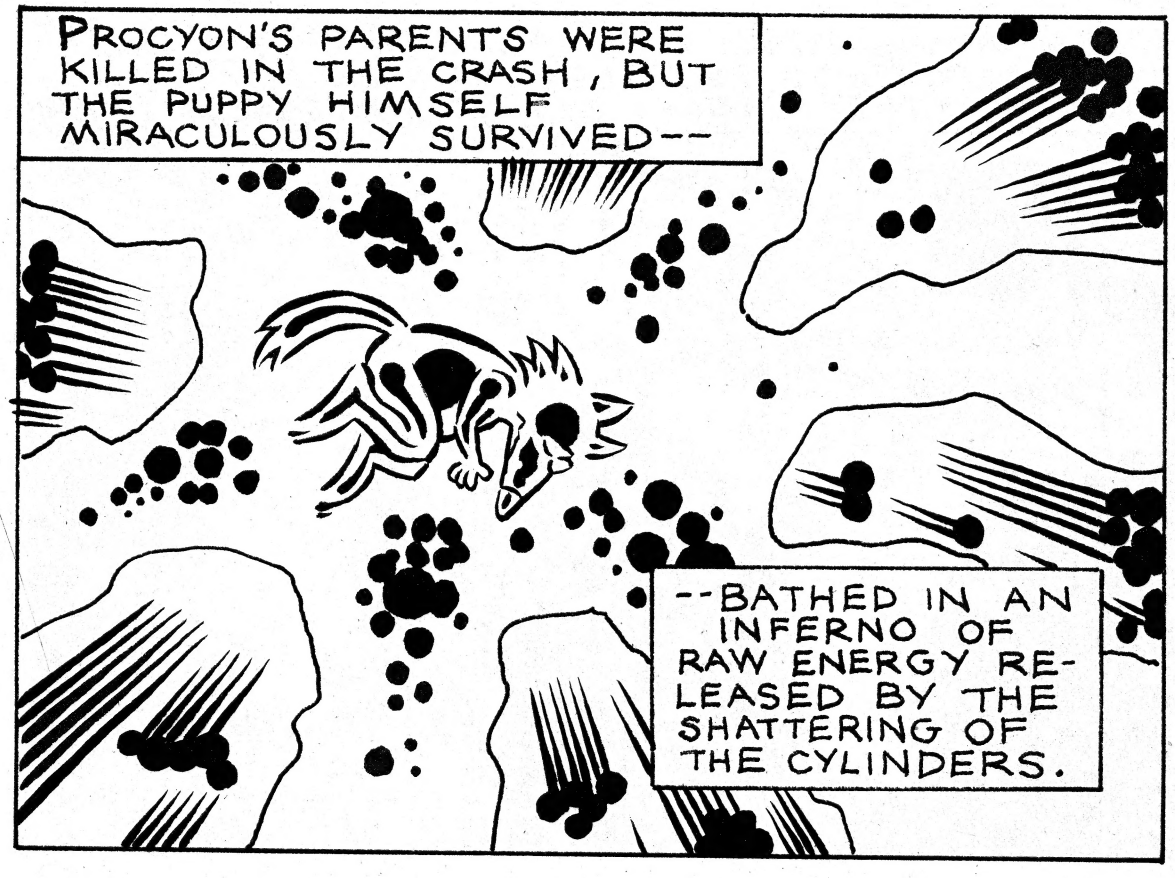
* THAT'S PRO'-SEE-ON, GANG. THE BRIGHTEST STAR IN THE CONSTELLATION CANIS MINOR - HELPFUL WARREN

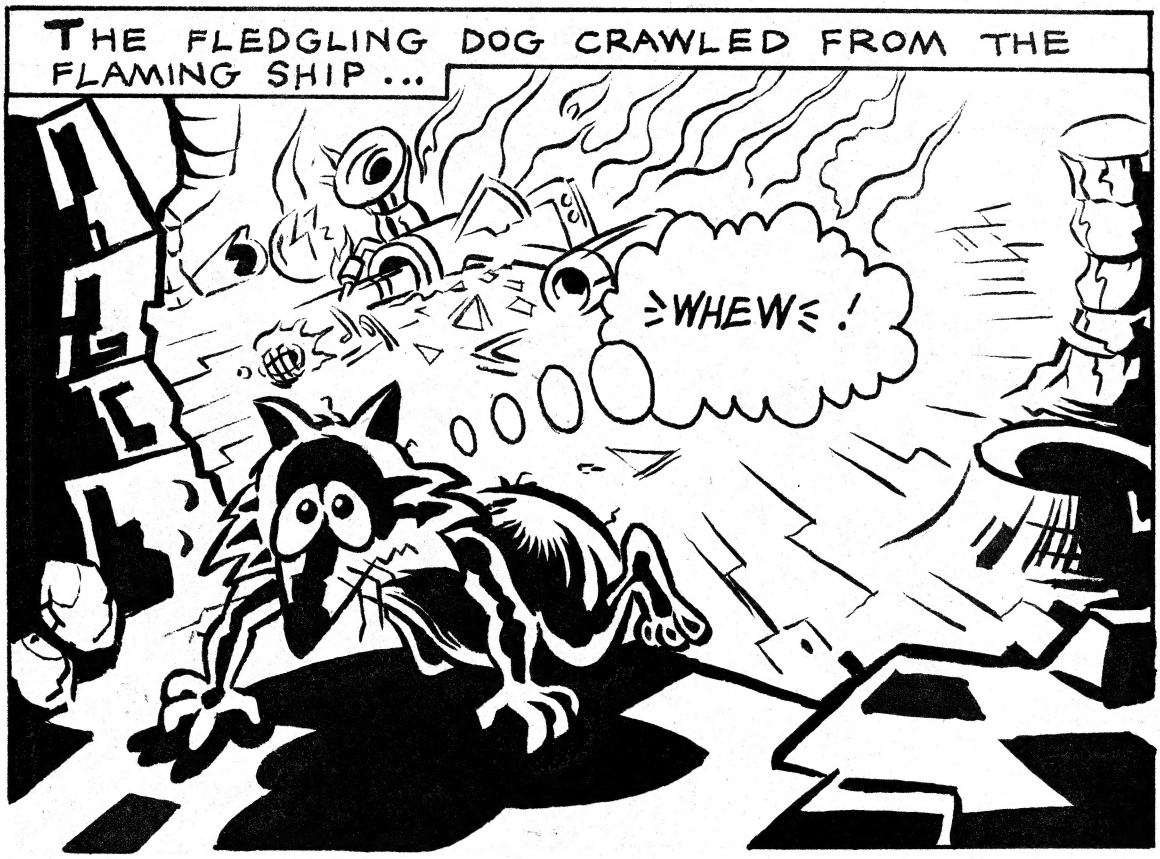
THE SHIP ALSO CARRIED THOUSANDS OF CYLINDERS OF CONCENTRATED ENERGY --

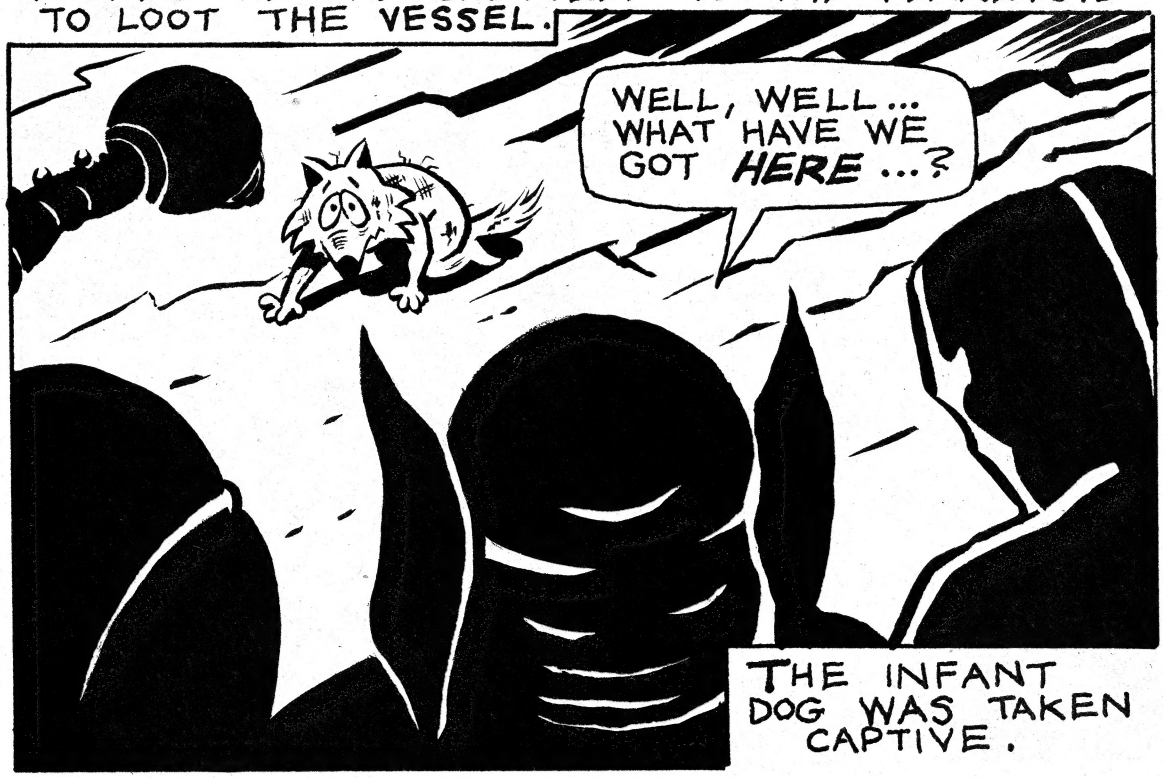
-- TO NOURISH THE FAMILY ON THEIR LONG VOYAGE THRU SPACE...

UNFORTUNATELY, THE SHIP WAS NEVER TO REACH IT'S DESTINATION -- FOR IT WAS ATTACKED BY *SPACE PIRATES*, PILOTING A LEVIATHAN SPACE CRUISER...

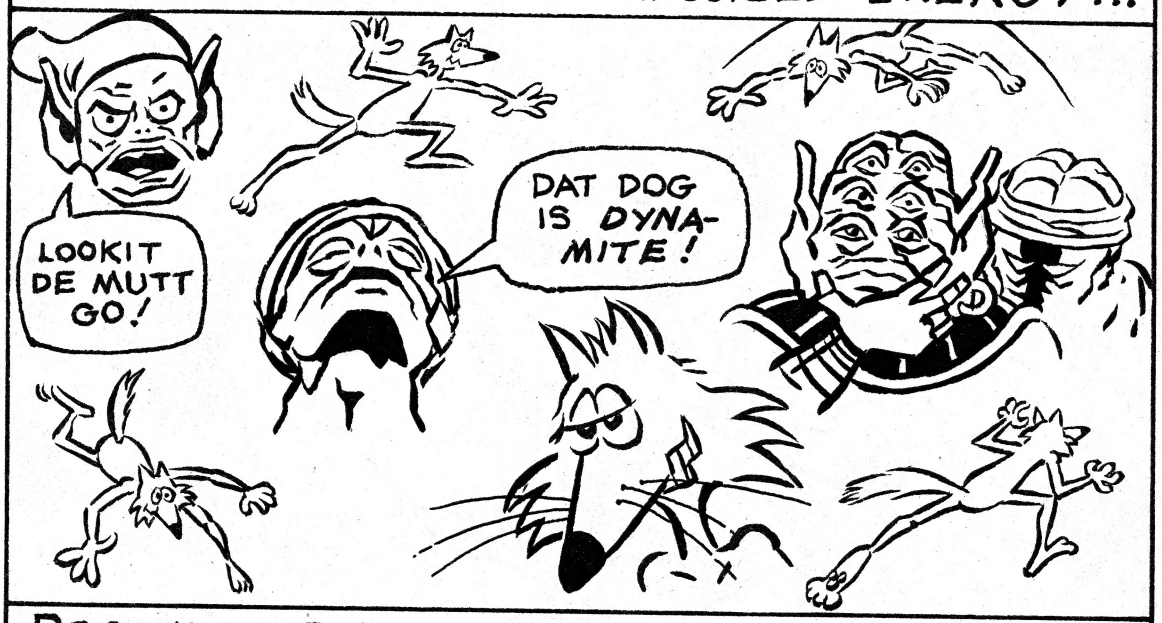

... AND FORCED TO CRASH-LAND ON AN ASTEROID...
AAAEEE!


PROCYON'S PARENTS WERE KILLED IN THE CRASH, BUT THE PUPPY HIMSELF MIRACULOUSLY SURVIVED--
--BATHED IN AN INFERNO OF RAW ENERGY RELEASED BY THE SHATTERING OF THE CYLINDERS.


THE FLEDGLING DOG CRAWLED FROM THE FLAMING SHIP ...
WHEW!


... TO BE DISCOVERED BY A LANDING PARTY OF PIRATES WHO HAD SHUTTLED TO THE PLANETOID TO LOOT THE VESSEL.
WELL, WELL... WHAT HAVE WE GOT HERE ...?
THE INFANT DOG WAS TAKEN CAPTIVE.

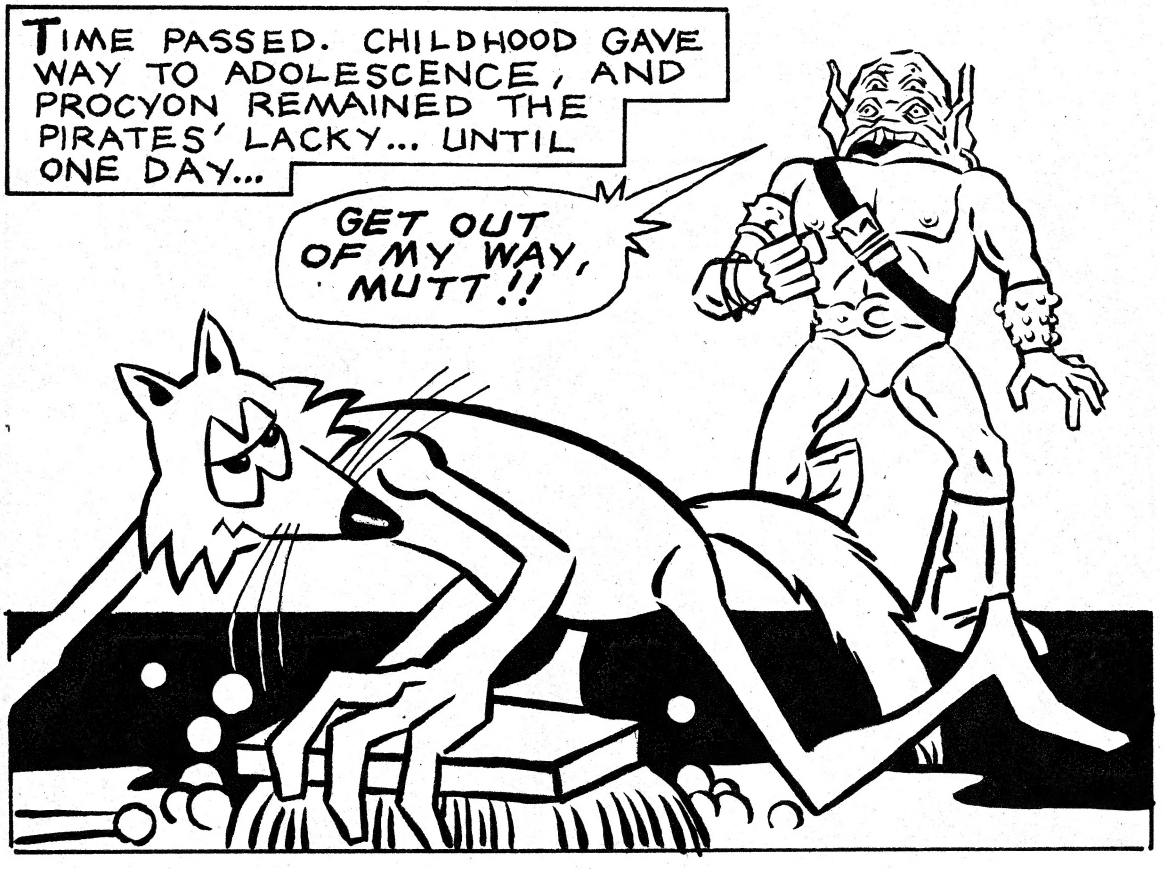
AS THE PUPPY, PROCYON, GREW TO CHILDHOOD THE STAR-PIRATES MARVELED AT HIS AGILITY, HIS SPEED -- HIS IRREPRESSIBLE *ENERGY*...

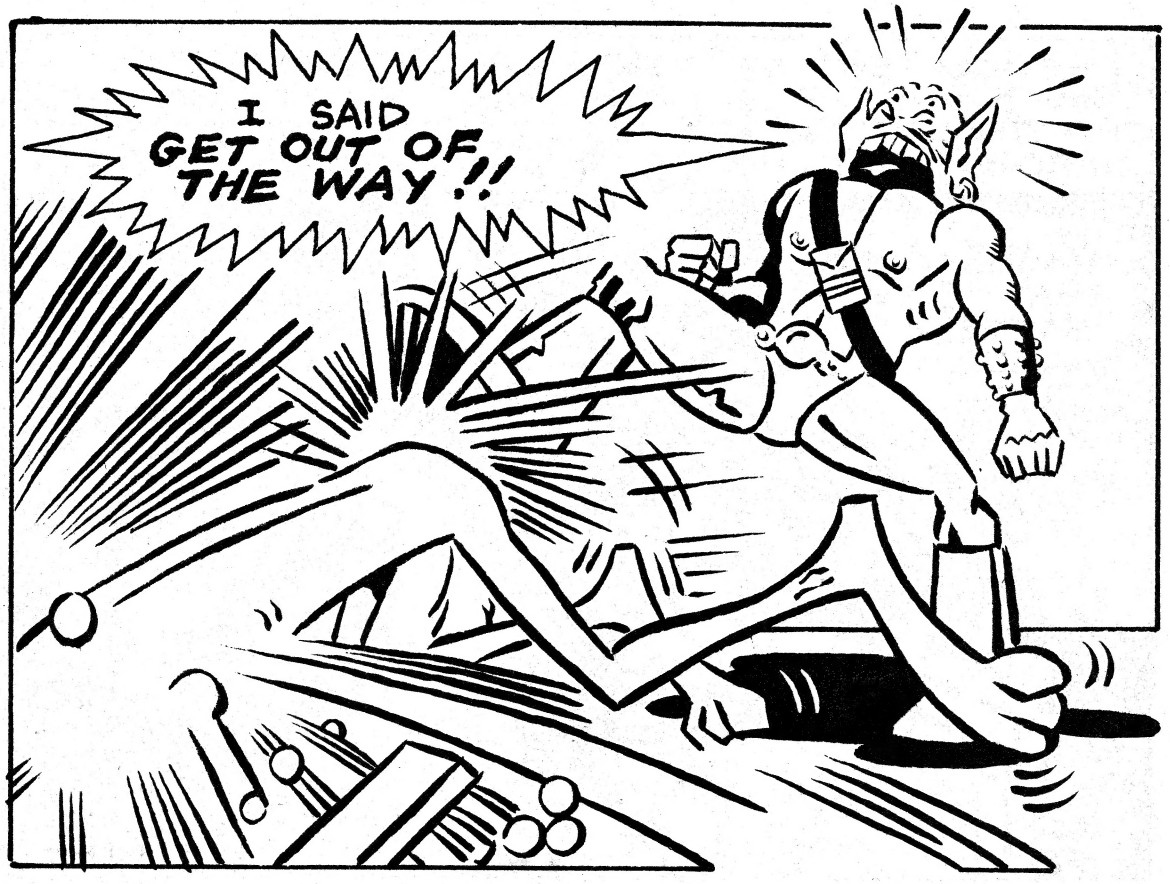


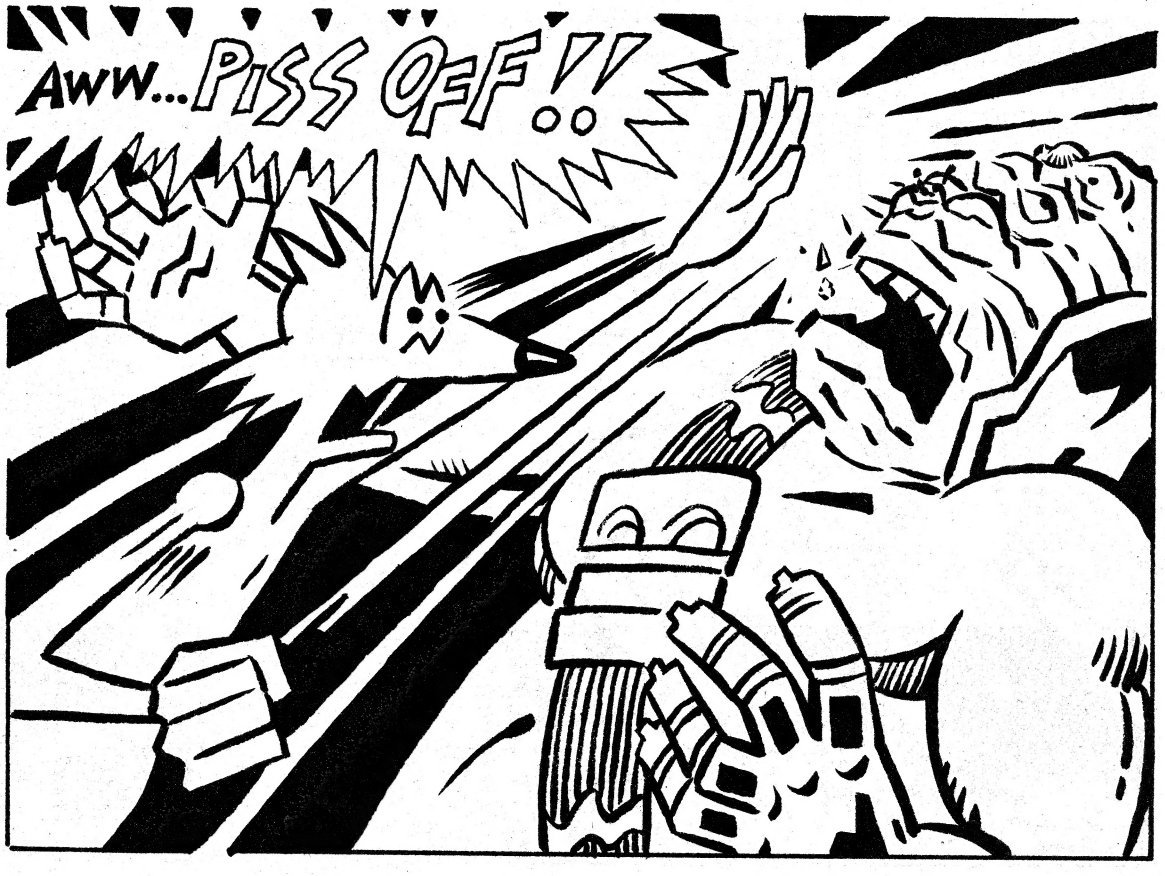
PROCYON SELDOM SLEPT, RARELY ATE, AND SEEMED TO HAVE AN ENDURANCE THAT SURPASSED ALL UNDERSTANDING.

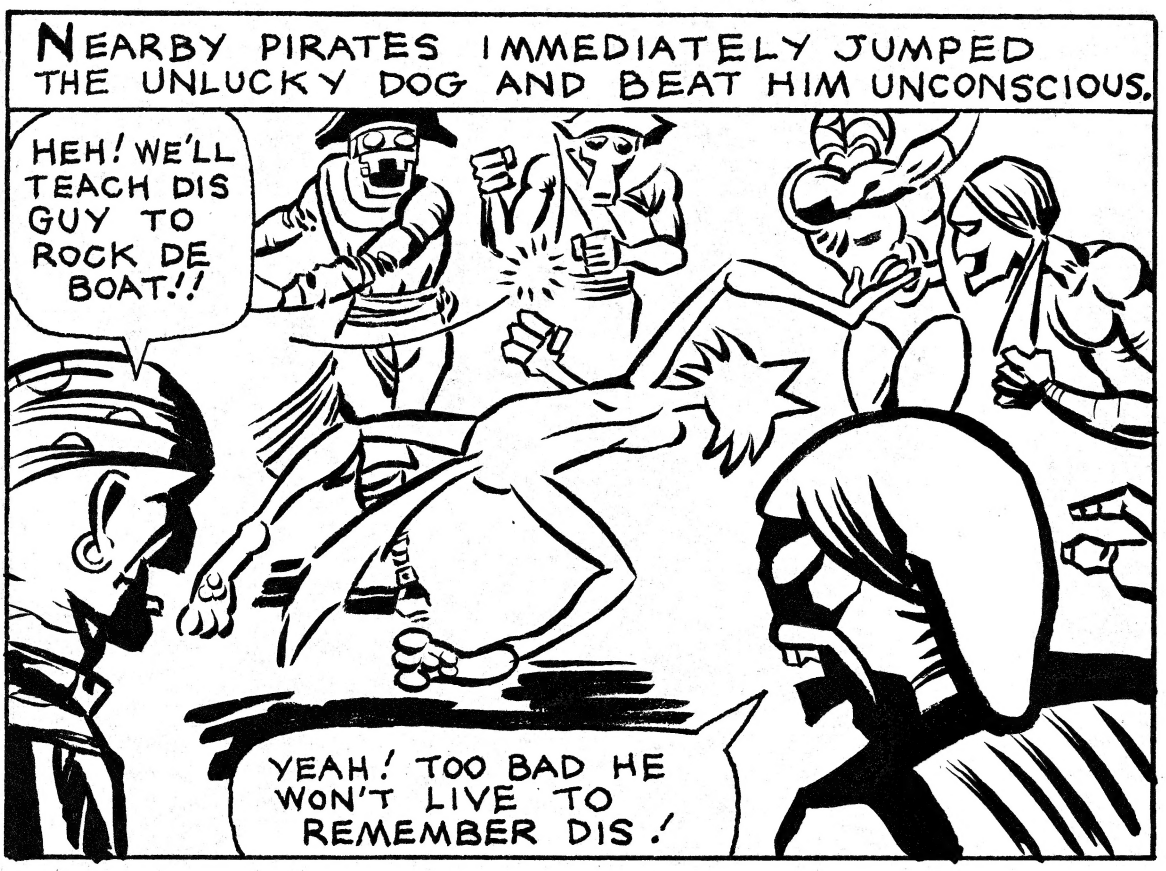
DESPITE THEIR WONDER, THEY TREATED HIM CRUELLY, BEATING HIM FREQUENTLY AND MAKING HIM PERFORM THEIR MENIAL WORK. THEY JEERED AND TAUNTED HIM...

THE PIRATES' LEADER, THE EVIL JOBILEWO, WAS SINGULARLY CRUEL AND OFTEN TORMENTED THE YOUNG DOG, FORCING HIM TO DRINK LARGE AMOUNTS OF THE NARCOTIC 'STAR BEER'.
HYAAHYAHAHA! WHAT IS THE MATTER?
IS MY LITTLE PET NOT THIRSTY?
THIS WAS TO BEGIN AN ADDICTION THAT THE DOG WOULD CARRY WITH HIM FOR THE REMAINDER OF HIS LIFE.

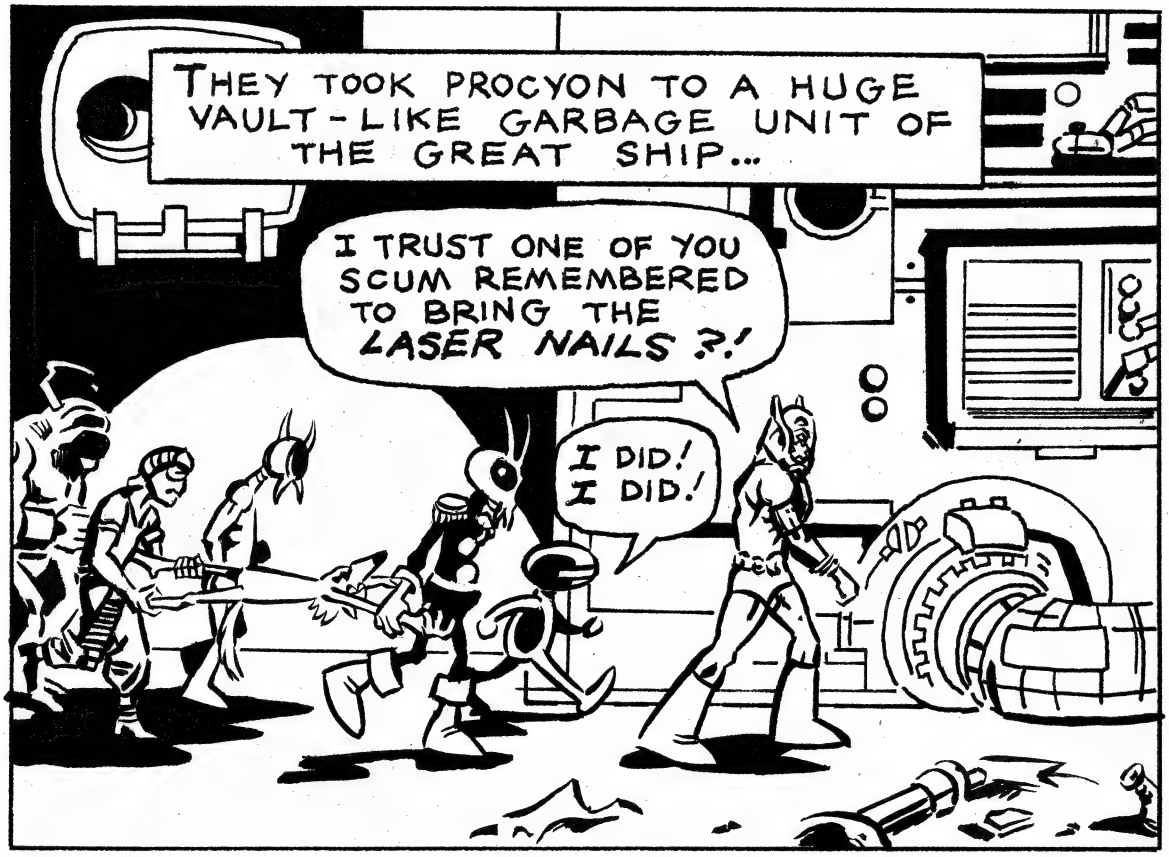

TIME PASSED. CHILDHOOD GAVE WAY TO ADOLESCENCE, AND PROCYON REMAINED THE PIRATES' LACKY... UNTIL ONE DAY...
GET OUT OF MY WAY, MUTT!!

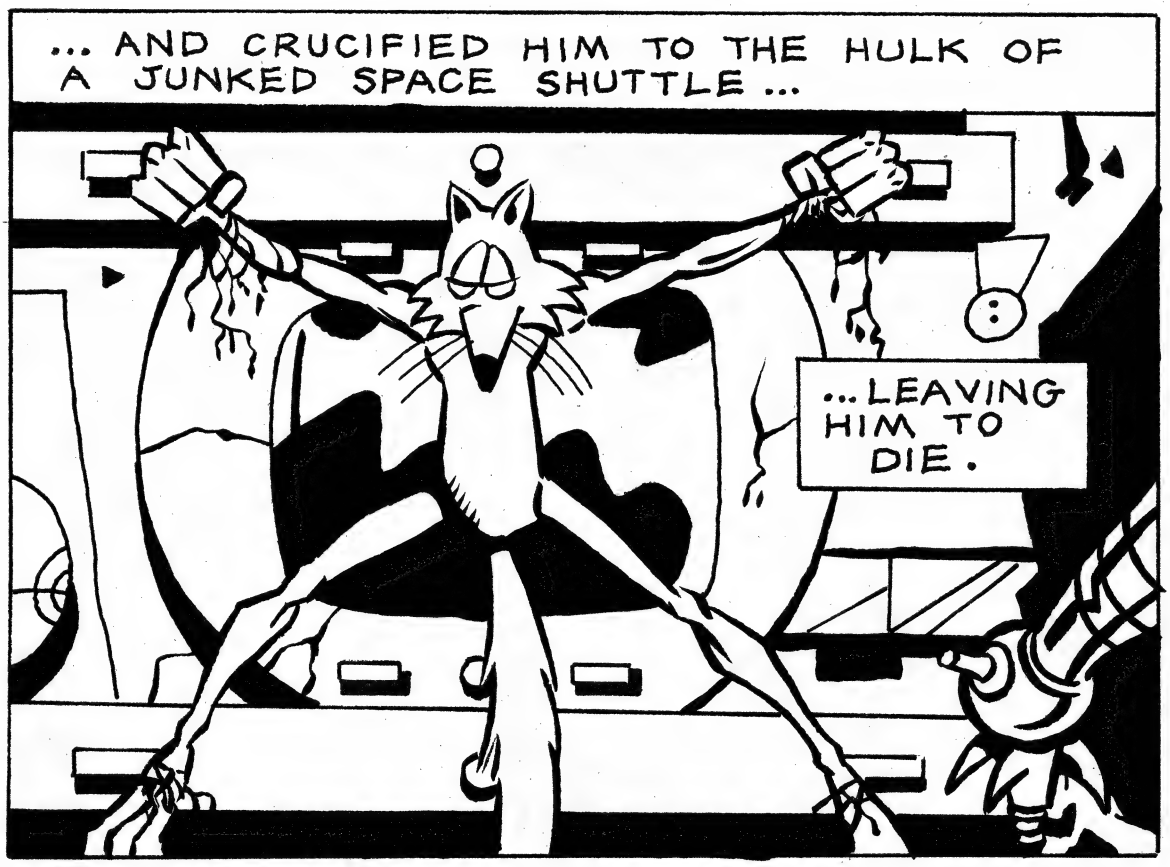

I SAID GET OUT OF THE WAY!!

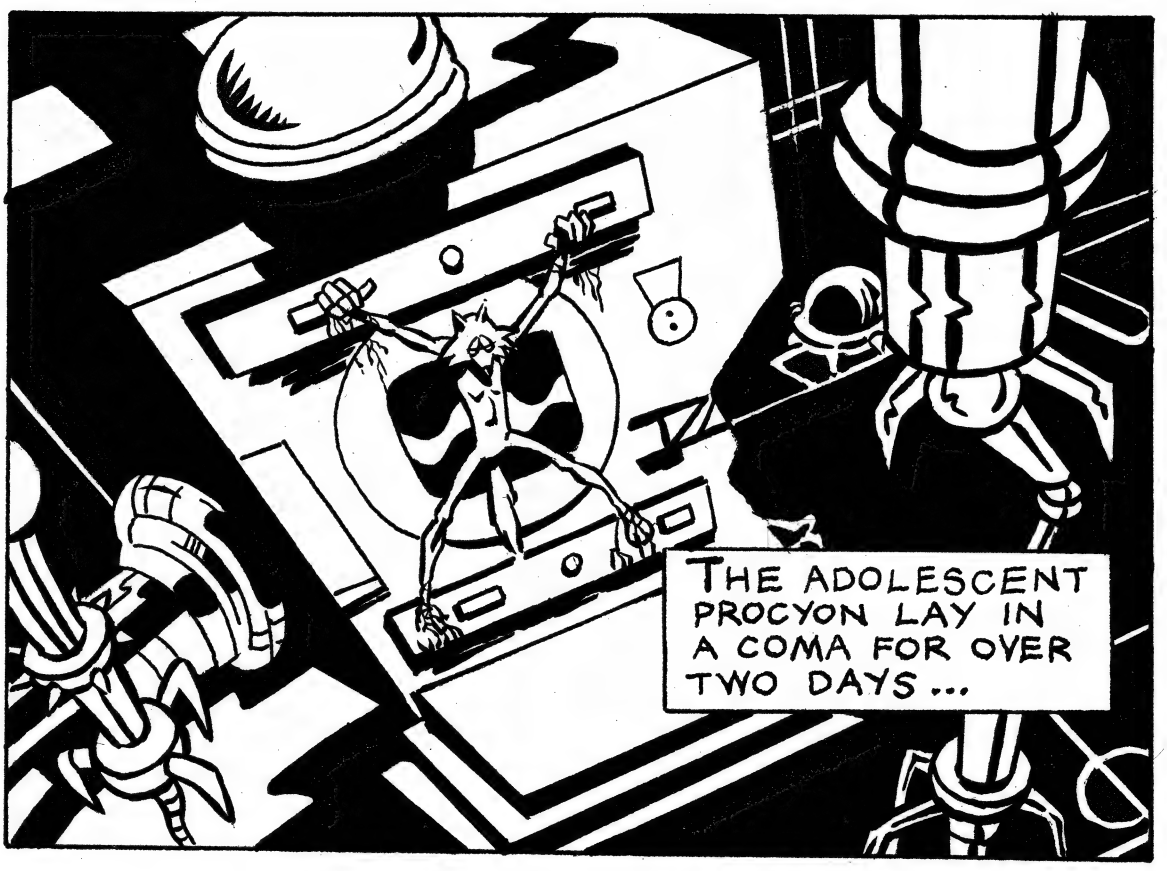

AWW... PISS OFF!!


NEARBY PIRATES IMMEDIATELY JUMPED THE UNLUCKY DOG AND BEAT HIM UNCONSCIOUS.
HEH! WE'LL TEACH DIS GUY TO ROCK DE BOAT!!
YEAH! TOO BAD HE WON'T LIVE TO REMEMBER DIS!

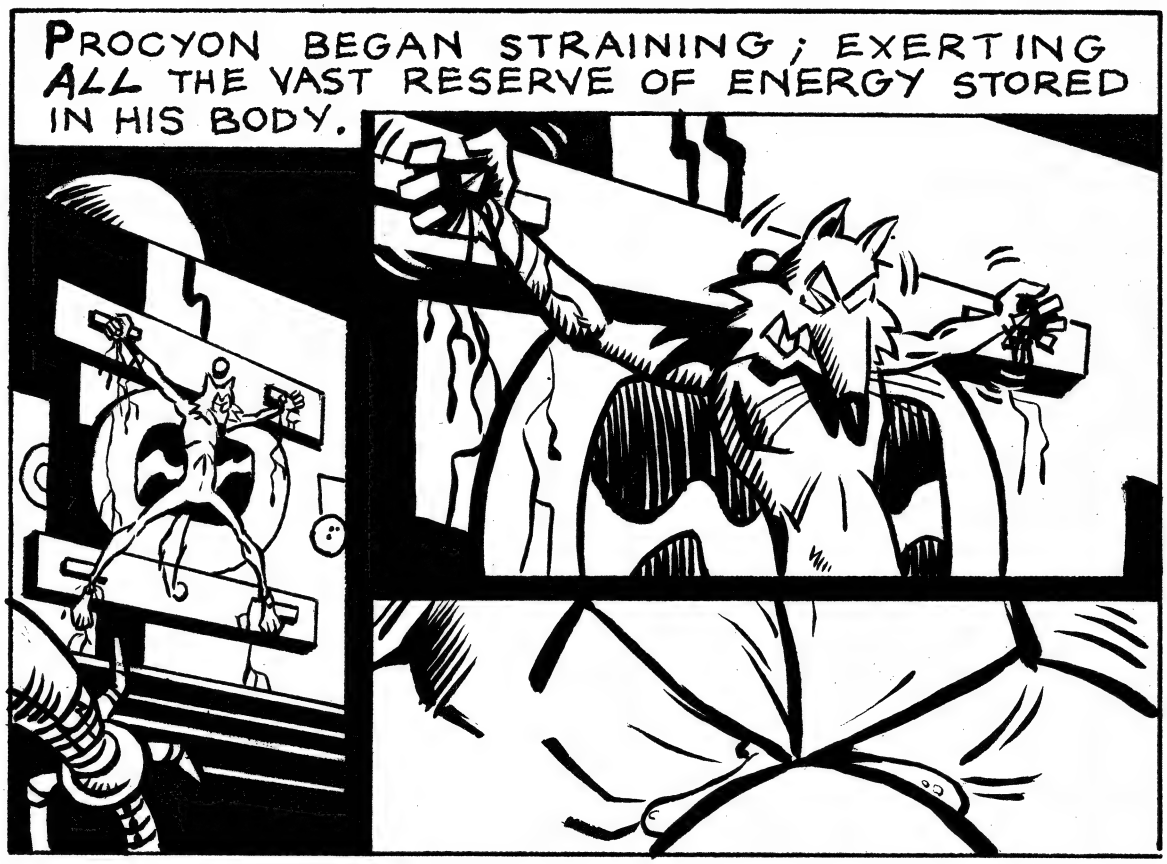
YOU'LL PAY DEARLY FOR THIS, DOG.
THE EVIL JOBILEWO DEVISED AN ESPECIALLY CRUEL PUNISHMENT...


THEY TOOK PROCYON TO A HUGE VAULT-LIKE GARBAGE UNIT OF THE GREAT SHIP...
I TRUST ONE OF YOU SCUM REMEMBERED TO BRING THE LASER NAILS ?!
I DID! I DID!

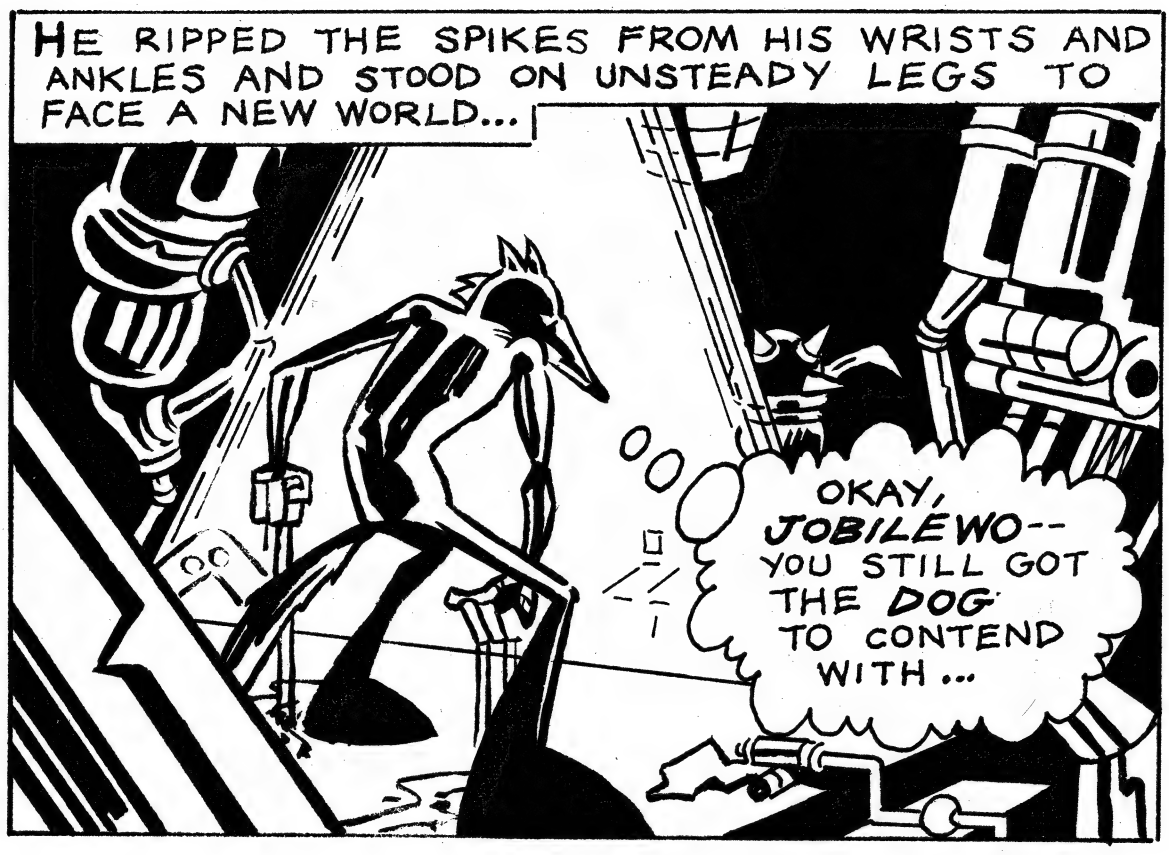

... AND CRUCIFIED HIM TO THE HULK OF A JUNKED SPACE SHUTTLE ...
...LEAVING HIM TO DIE.

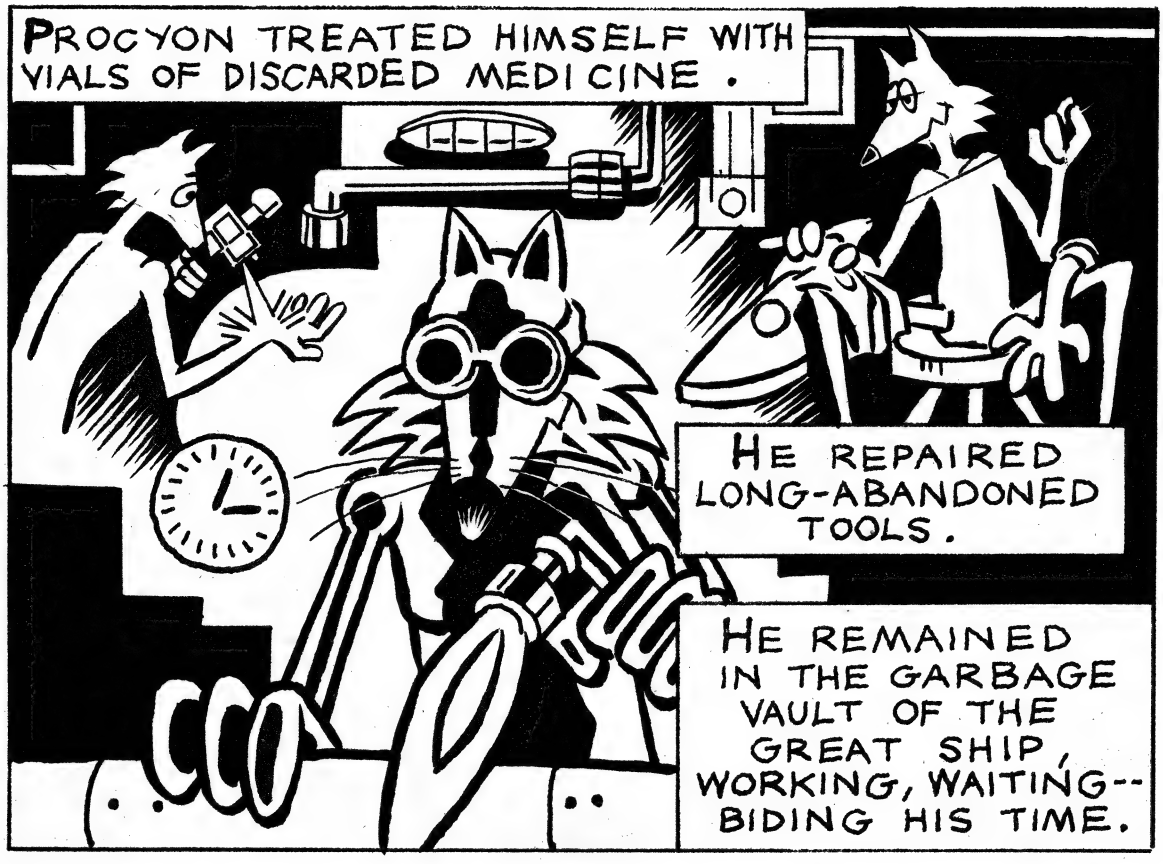

THE ADOLESCENT PROCYON LAY IN A COMA FOR OVER TWO DAYS...

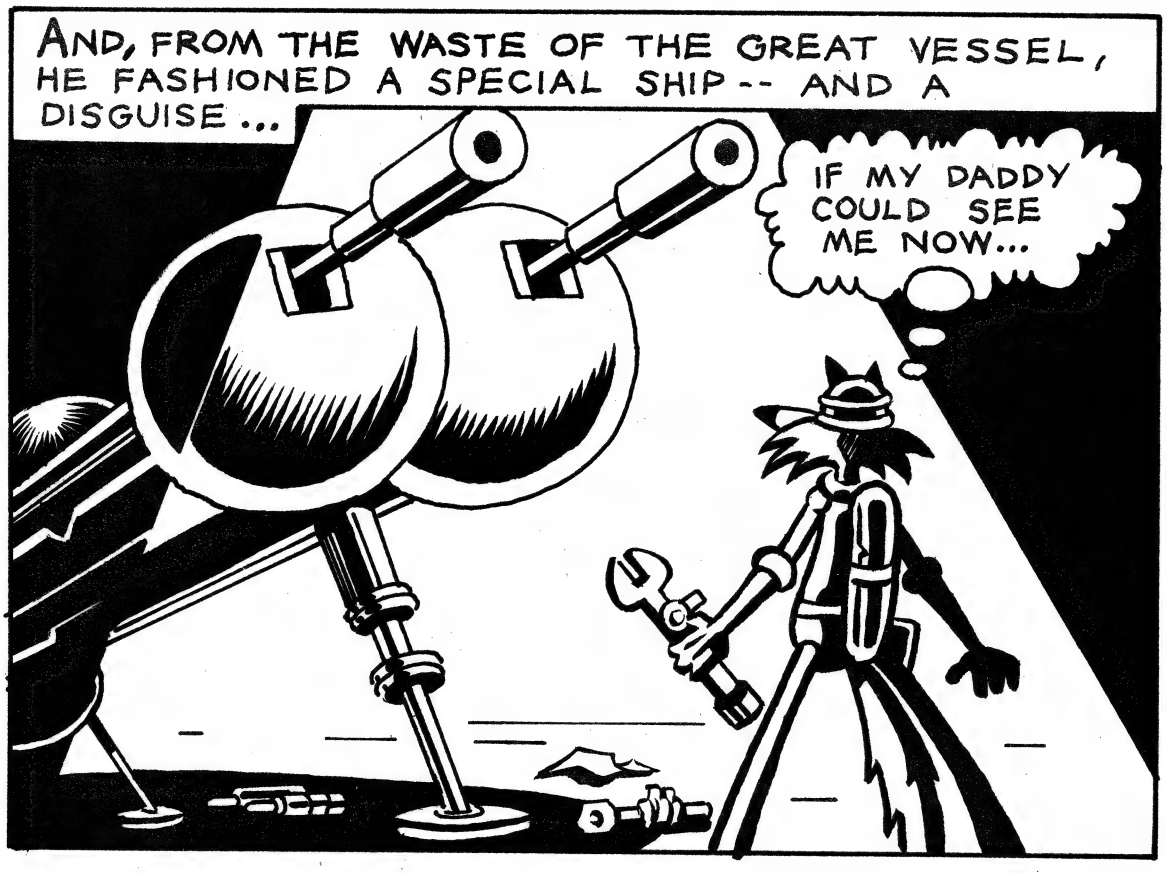
BUT THREE HOURS BEFORE THE BREAKING OF THE THIRD DAY, HE OPENED HIS FILMY EYES AND SAID:
I'M MAD.


PROCYON BEGAN STRAINING; EXERTING ALL THE VAST RESERVE OF ENERGY STORED IN HIS BODY.

AND IN A BURST OF SHEER WILL POWER -- THE DOG WRENCHED HIS HANDS FREE!!


HE RIPPED THE SPIKES FROM HIS WRISTS AND ANKLES AND STOOD ON UNSTEADY LEGS TO FACE A NEW WORLD...
OKAY, JOBILEWO-- YOU STILL GOT THE DOG TO CONTEND WITH...


PROCYON TREATED HIMSELF WITH VIALS OF DISCARDED MEDICINE.
HE REPAIRED LONG-ABANDONED TOOLS.
HE REMAINED IN THE GARBAGE VAULT OF THE GREAT SHIP, WORKING, WAITING-- BIDING HIS TIME.


AND, FROM THE WASTE OF THE GREAT VESSEL, HE FASHIONED A SPECIAL SHIP -- AND A DISGUISE ...
IF MY DADDY COULD SEE ME NOW...

AND ON THAT DAY...
RR-RAACK!
... A SHIP, SHAPED CURIOUSLY LIKE A GREAT BONE, RIPPED ITSELF FREE FROM THE BELLY OF THE LEVIATHAN !

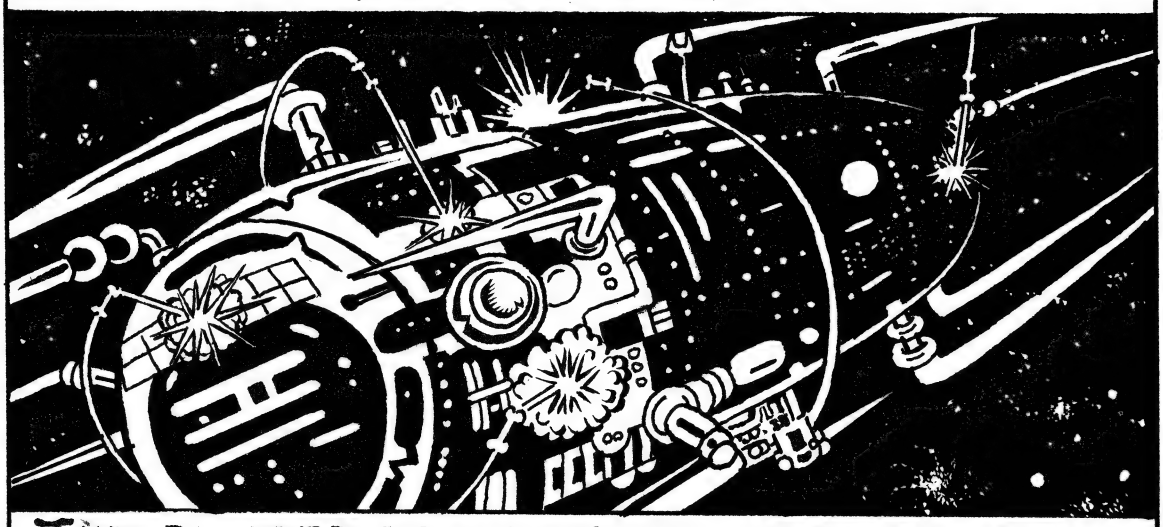
WHILE IN THE PIRATE SHIP'S CONTROL ROOM...
CAP'N!! THE SENSORS DETECT AN EXPLOSION ON THE HULL -- AND ANOTHER SHIP TRAVELLING 'LONG SIDE US !!
W-WHAT?!! THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE !! AM I ASLEEP?!!

SUDDENLY --
NOW YOU'RE GONNA GET YOURS, YOU MURDERING BASTARDS!!
I-IT'S -- THE MUTT!!

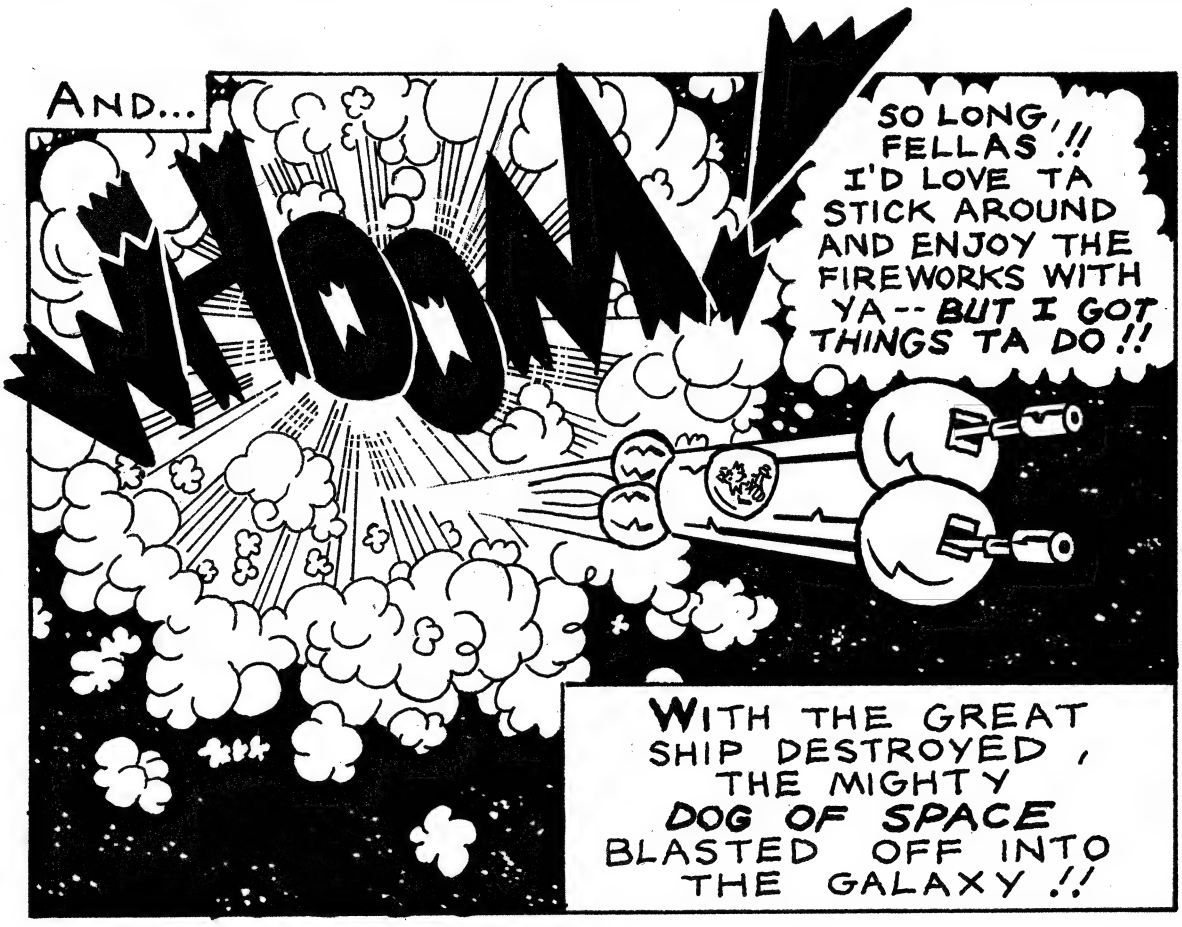
THE NAME IS SPACE DOG!!
STAR BEER

BONG!
AND DON'T YOU EVER FORGET IT!!

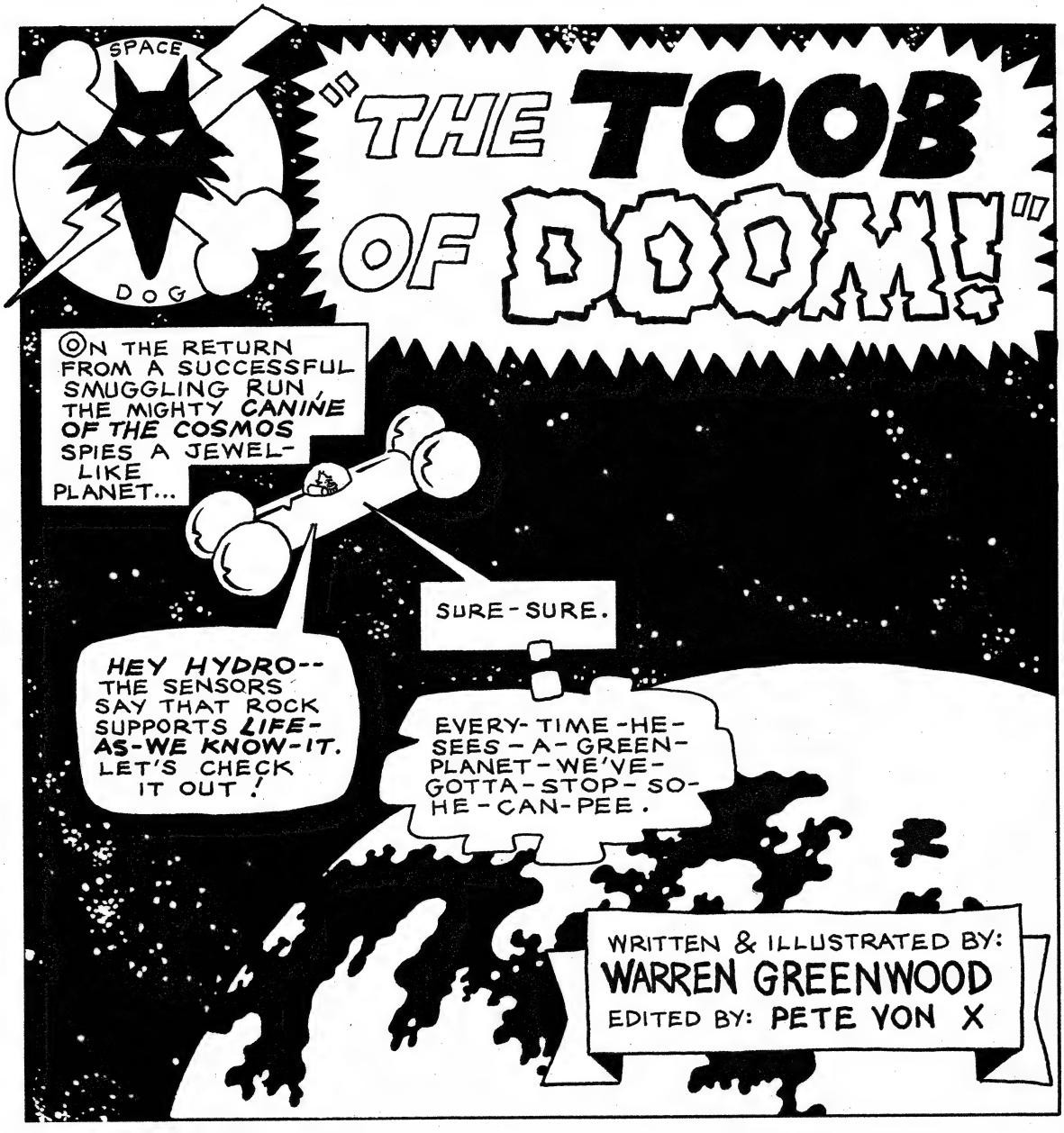
SPACE DOG'S SHIP STREAKED IN WILD ARCS AROUND THE GREAT SHIP; IT'S BLASTERS PICKING OFF POWER UNITS AND WEAPONS INSTALLATIONS ...

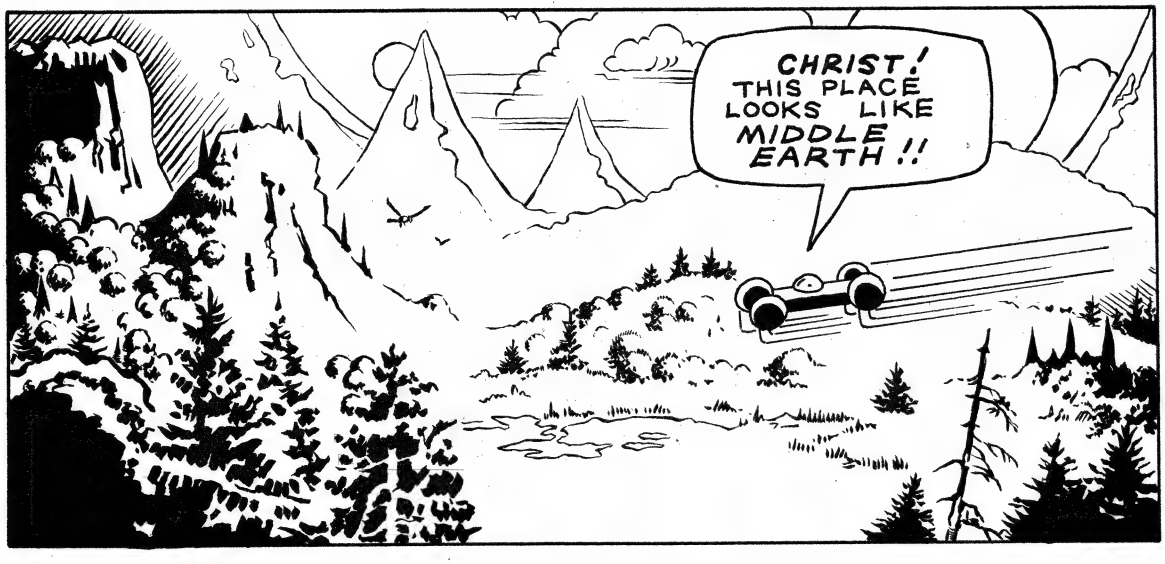


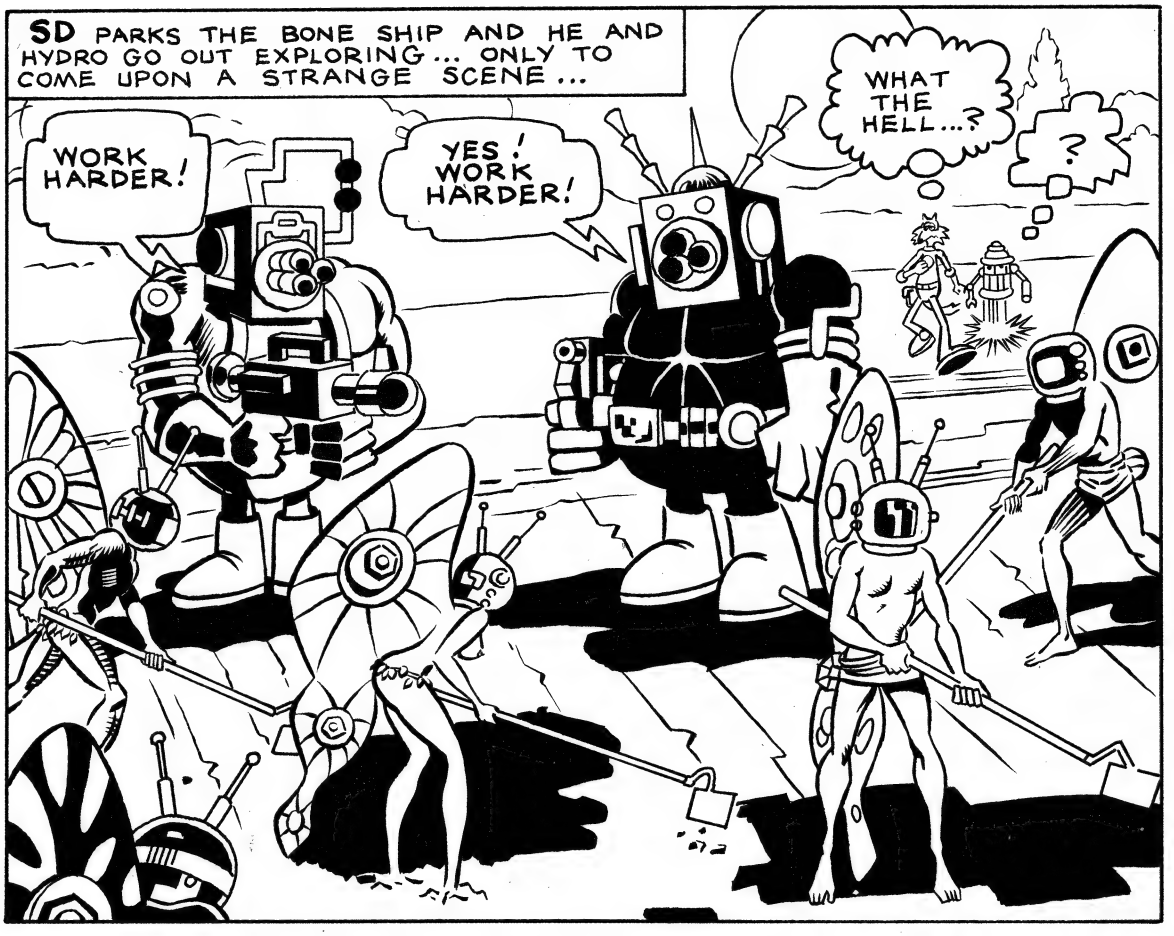
THE BLOATED PIRATE VESSEL WAS TOO SLOW-- TOO *BIG* TO MATCH THE SPEED OF SPACE DOG'S TINY CRUISER. EVENTUALLY, ONE OF SPACE DOG'S LASERS STRUCK THE LEVIATHAN'S CENTRAL REACTOR CORE ...

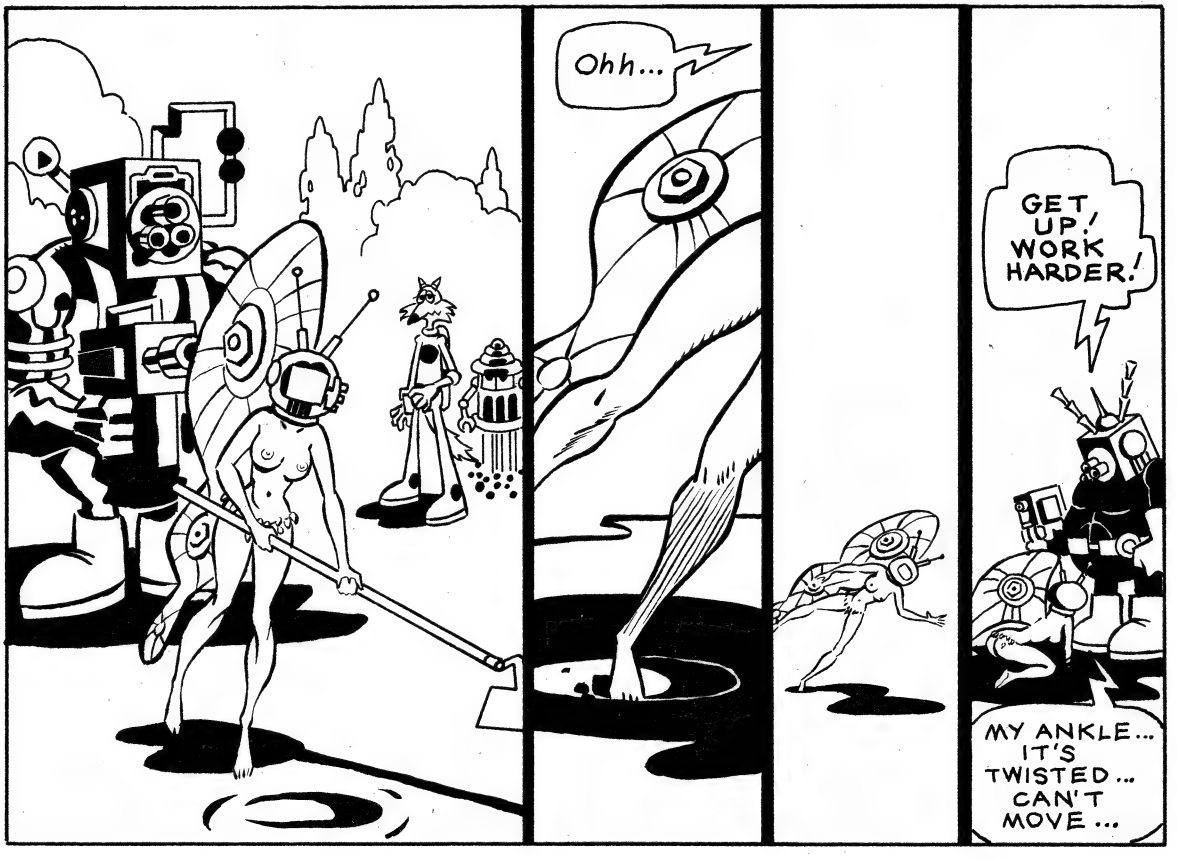


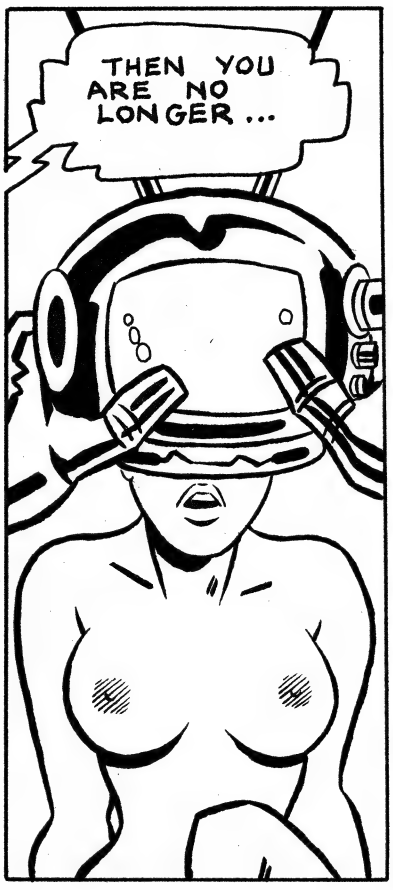
SPECIAL THANKS TO *PETE VON X* FOR CONTRIBUTING MOST OF THE FUNNY DIALOGUE, TO *GEORGE DI CAPRIO* FOR EDITORIAL AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE, AND TO 'BABA' *RON TURNER* FOR PROVIDING THE IMPETUS TO LAUNCH **SD** IN THE PRINT MEDIUM. HEROS, ALL !!

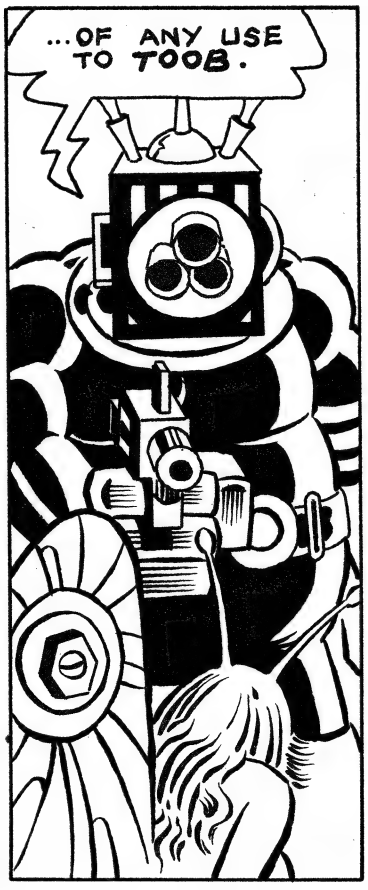

SPACE DOG
"THE TOOB OF DOOM!"
ON THE RETURN FROM A SUCCESSFUL SMUGGLING RUN, THE MIGHTY CANINE OF THE COSMOS SPIES A JEWEL-LIKE PLANET...
HEY HYDRO-- THE SENSORS SAY THAT ROCK SUPPORTS LIFE-AS-WE KNOW-IT. LET'S CHECK IT OUT!
SURE-SURE.
EVERY-TIME-HE-SEES-A-GREEN-PLANET-WE'VE-GOTTA-STOP-SO-HE-CAN-PEE.
WRITTEN & ILLUSTRATED BY: WARREN GREENWOOD
EDITED BY: PETE VON X

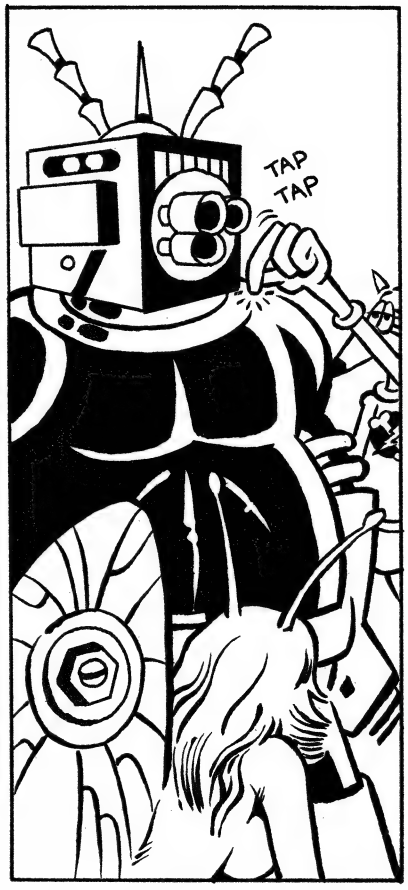

CHRIST! THIS PLACE LOOKS LIKE MIDDLE EARTH!!


SD PARKS THE BONE SHIP AND HE AND HYDRO GO OUT EXPLORING... ONLY TO COME UPON A STRANGE SCENE...
WORK HARDER!
YES! WORK HARDER!
WHAT THE HELL...?
?


Ohh...
GET UP! WORK HARDER!
MY ANKLE... IT'S TWISTED... CAN'T MOVE...

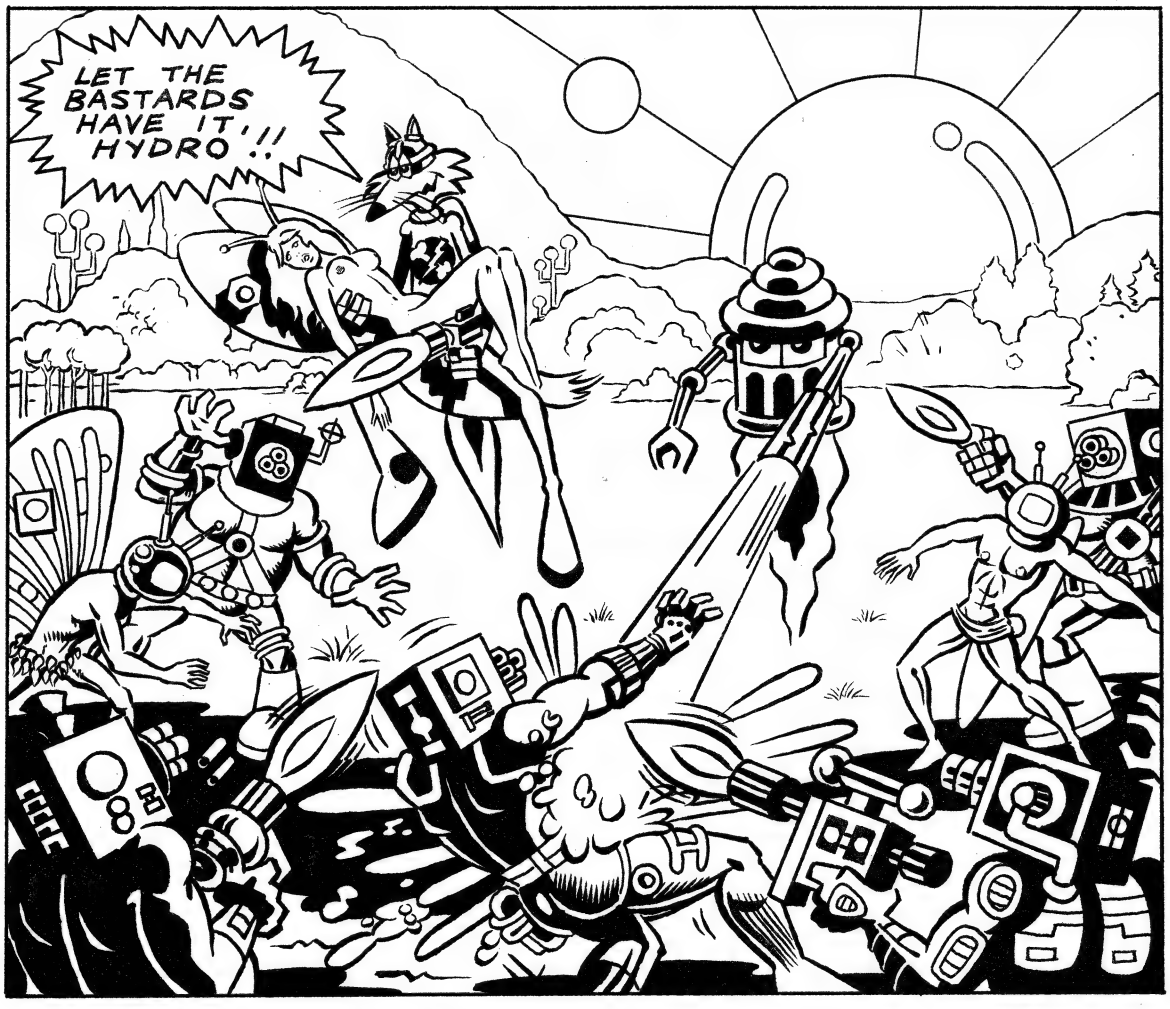

THEN YOU ARE NO LONGER ...


...OF ANY USE TO TOOB.

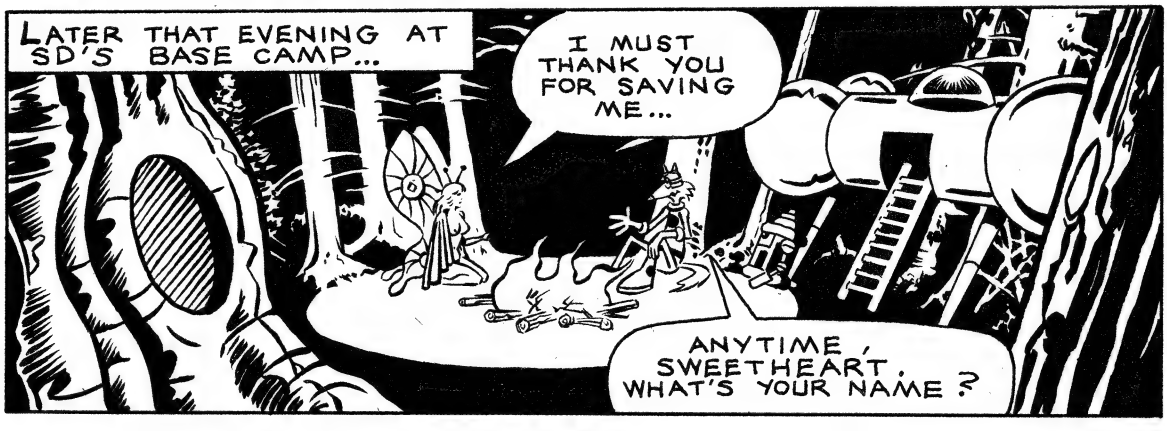

TAP TAP

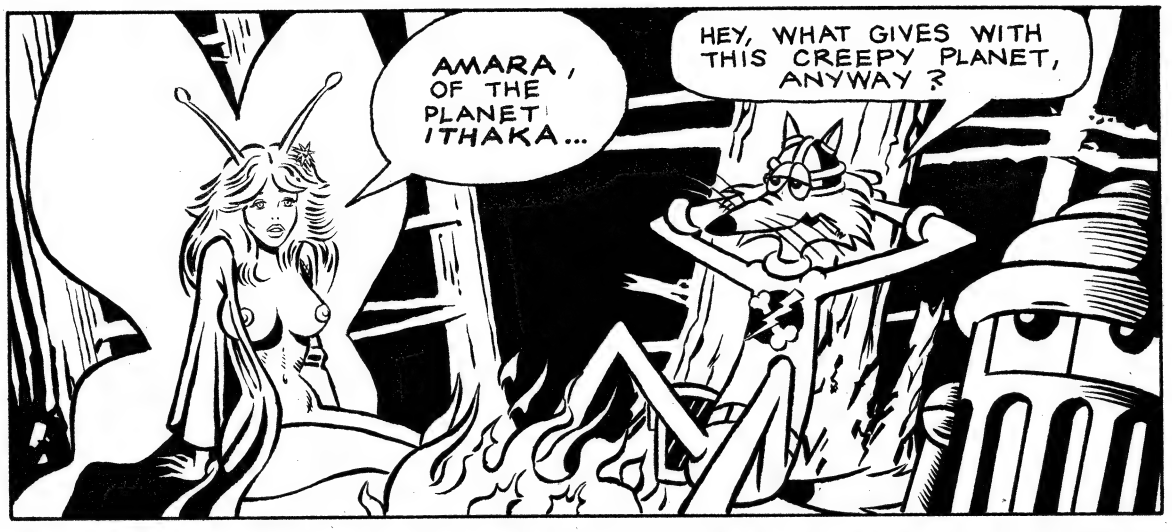
BLAM!

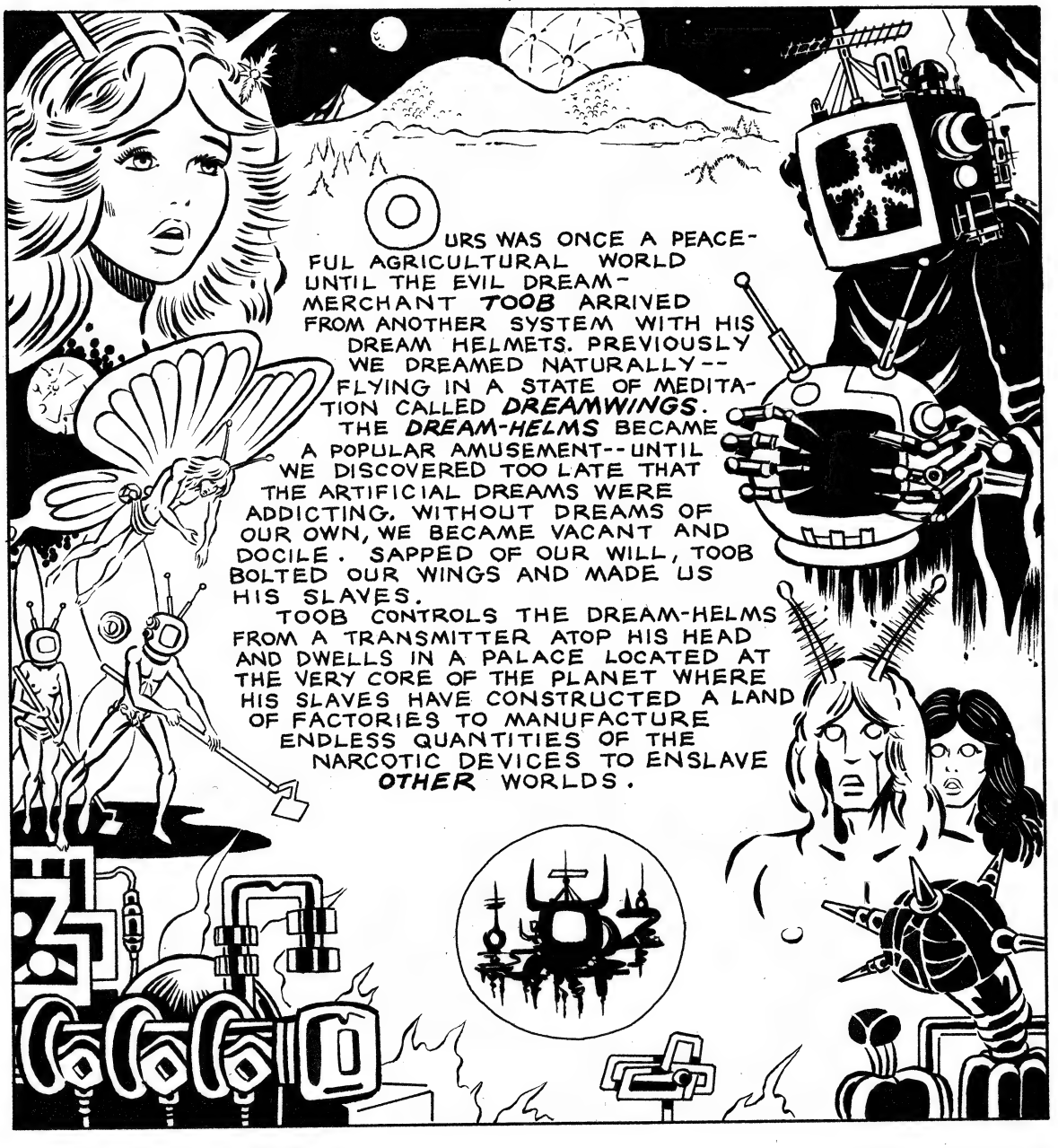
WAH-HOOO!
HOLD ON TIGHT BABY--!
WE'RE CUTTIN' OUTTA HERE !!


LET THE BASTARDS HAVE IT, HYDRO!!

AND THEN LET'S GET THE LADY BACK TO THE SHIP!


LATER THAT EVENING AT SD'S BASE CAMP...
I MUST THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME...
ANYTIME, SWEETHEART. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?


AMARA, OF THE PLANET ITHAKA...
HEY, WHAT GIVES WITH THIS CREEPY PLANET, ANYWAY?

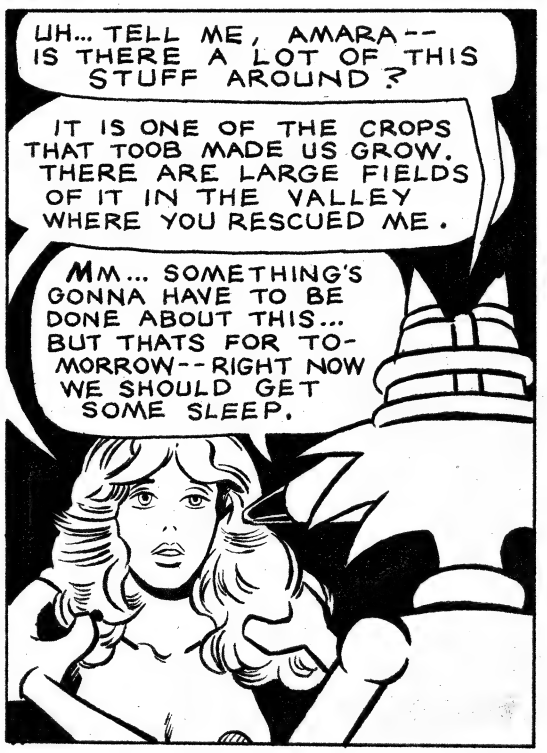

OURS WAS ONCE A PEACEFUL AGRICULTURAL WORLD UNTIL THE EVIL DREAM-MERCHANT TOOB ARRIVED FROM ANOTHER SYSTEM WITH HIS DREAM HELMETS. PREVIOUSLY WE DREAMED NATURALLY--FLYING IN A STATE OF MEDITATION CALLED DREAMWINGS. THE DREAM-HELMS BECAME A POPULAR AMUSEMENT--UNTIL WE DISCOVERED TOO LATE THAT THE ARTIFICIAL DREAMS WERE ADDICTING. WITHOUT DREAMS OF OUR OWN, WE BECAME VACANT AND DOCILE. SAPPED OF OUR WILL, TOOB BOLTED OUR WINGS AND MADE US HIS SLAVES.
TOOB CONTROLS THE DREAM-HELMS FROM A TRANSMITTER ATOP HIS HEAD AND DWELLS IN A PALACE LOCATED AT THE VERY CORE OF THE PLANET WHERE HIS SLAVES HAVE CONSTRUCTED A LAND OF FACTORIES TO MANUFACTURE ENDLESS QUANTITIES OF THE NARCOTIC DEVICES TO ENSLAVE OTHER WORLDS.

YOU ARE POSSESSED OF GREAT POWERS. WILL YOU HELP MY PEOPLE, SPACE DOG?

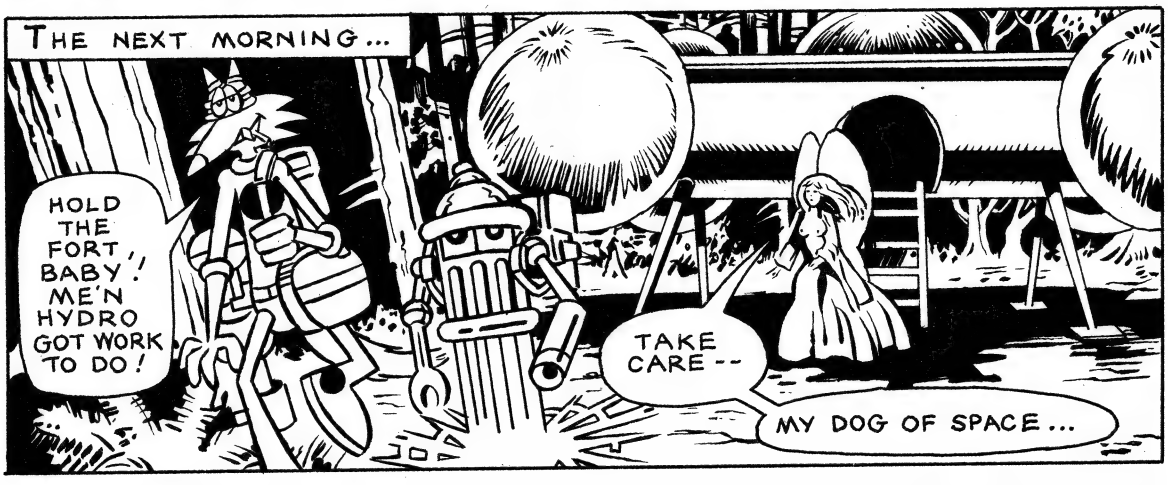
LOOK LADY, I AIN'T LUKE SKYWALKER; I DON'T MAKE A HABIT OUTTA SAVIN' WORLDS!

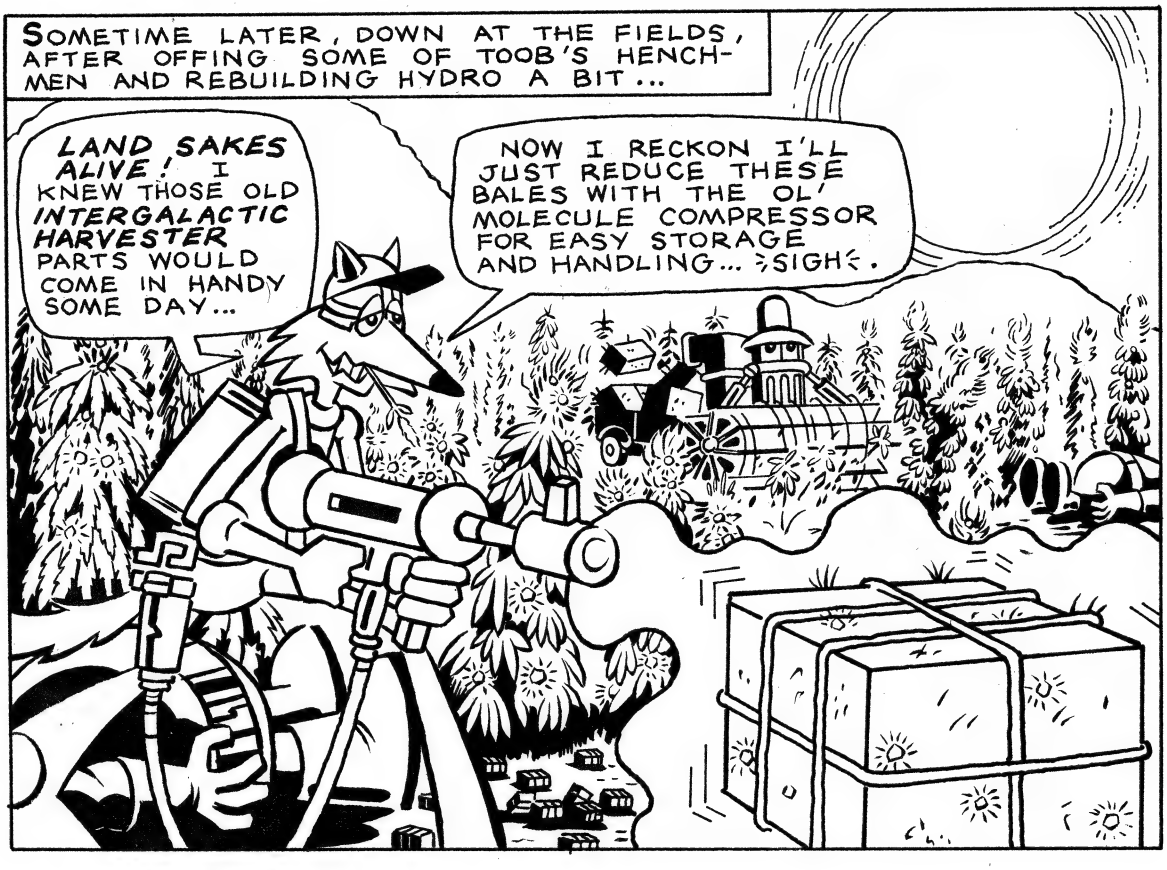
SO YA SEE... SAAYYY... I NEVER NOTICED THAT FLOWER IN YOUR HAIR BEFORE!
IS IT IMPORTANT?
IS IT IMPORTANT?!!

I NEVER SAW ANYTHING LIKE IT...
THIS BUD IS PURE GOLD!!
GOLD?

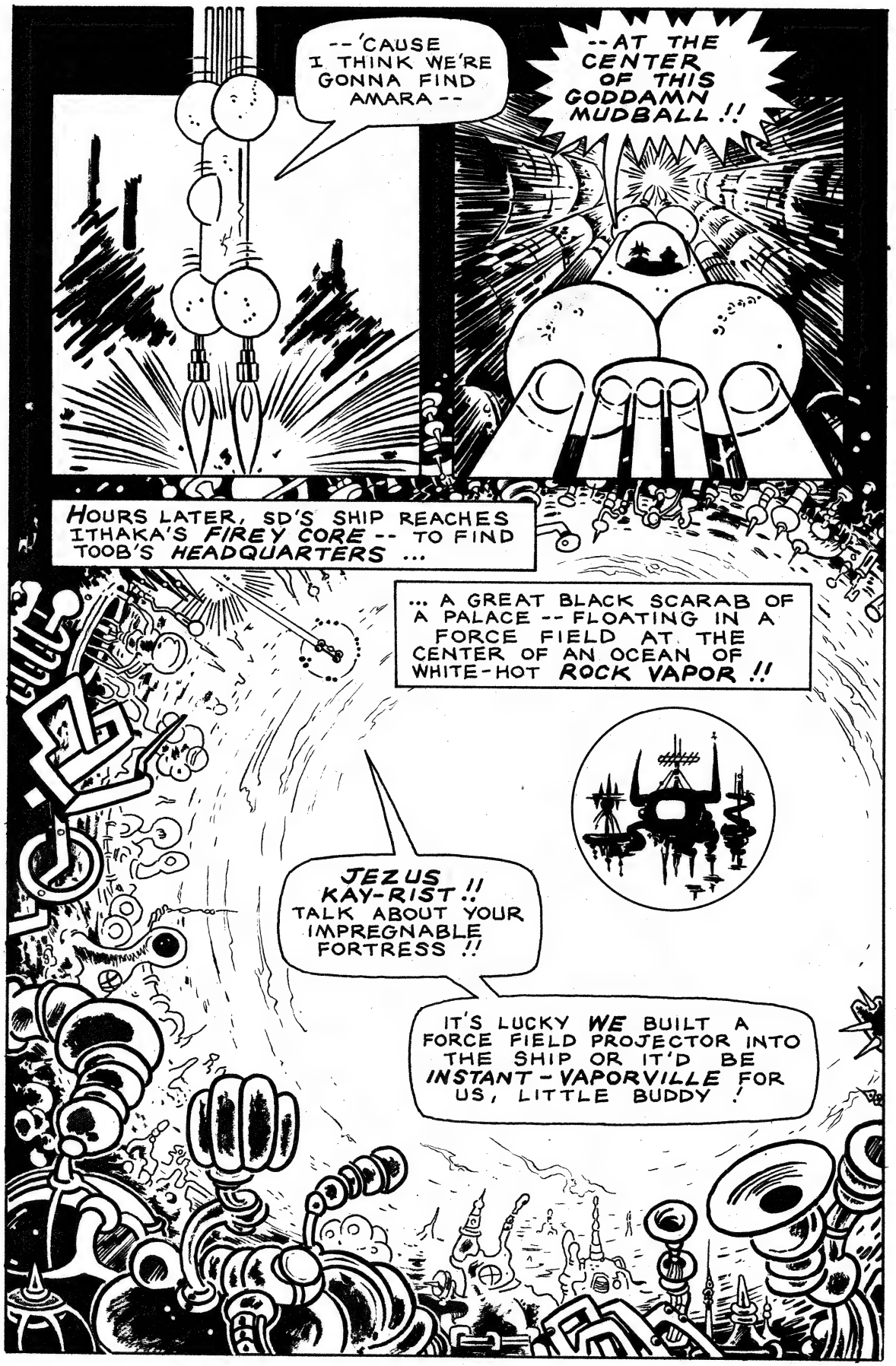

UH... TELL ME, AMARA-- IS THERE A LOT OF THIS STUFF AROUND?
IT IS ONE OF THE CROPS THAT TOOB MADE US GROW. THERE ARE LARGE FIELDS OF IT IN THE VALLEY WHERE YOU RESCUED ME.
MM... SOMETHING'S GONNA HAVE TO BE DONE ABOUT THIS... BUT THATS FOR TOMORROW--RIGHT NOW WE SHOULD GET SOME SLEEP.

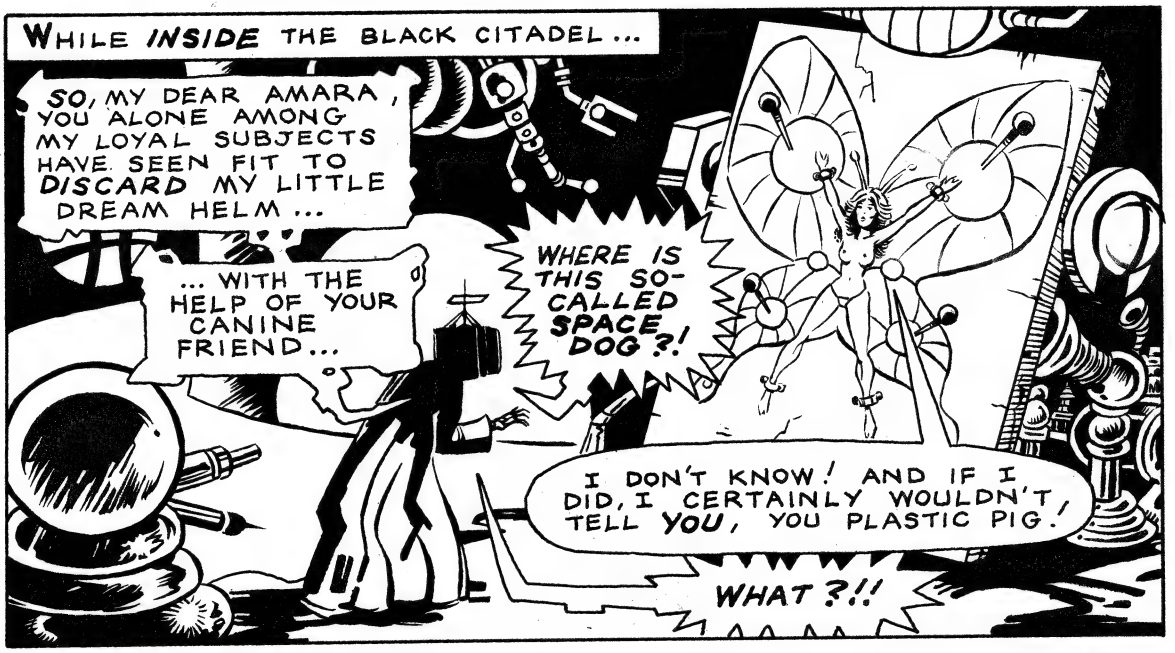
YOU KNOW, YOU'RE RATHER CUTE FOR A DOG...
IT'S TRUE! IT'S TRUE!

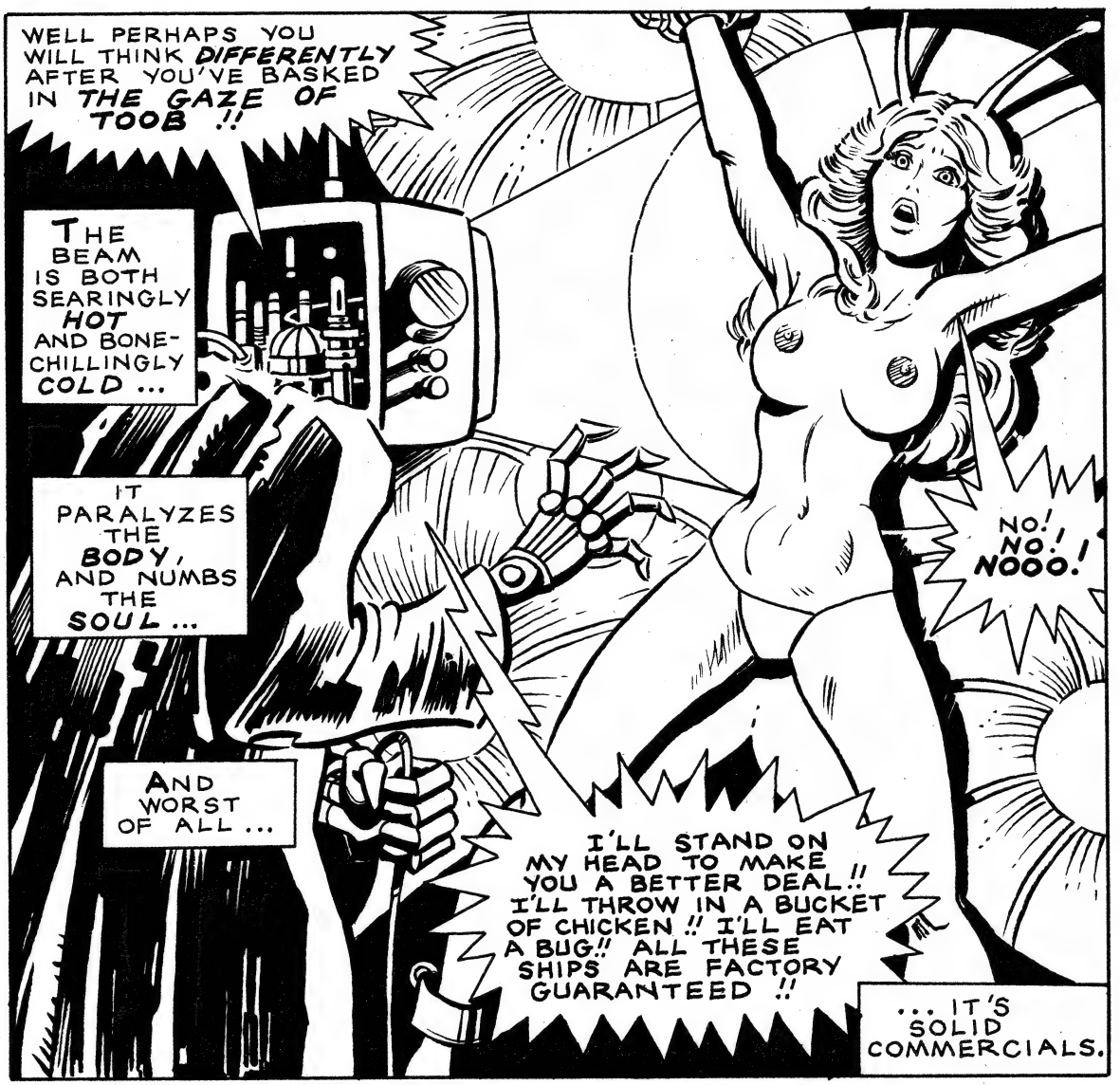

THE NEXT MORNING...
HOLD THE FORT, BABY! ME'N HYDRO GOT WORK TO DO!
TAKE CARE--
MY DOG OF SPACE...


SOMETIME LATER, DOWN AT THE FIELDS, AFTER OFFING SOME OF TOOB'S HENCHMEN AND REBUILDING HYDRO A BIT...
LAND SAKES ALIVE! I KNEW THOSE OLD INTERGALACTIC HARVESTER PARTS WOULD COME IN HANDY SOME DAY...
NOW I RECKON I'LL JUST REDUCE THESE BALES WITH THE OL' MOLECULE COMPRESSOR FOR EASY STORAGE AND HANDLING... SIGH.

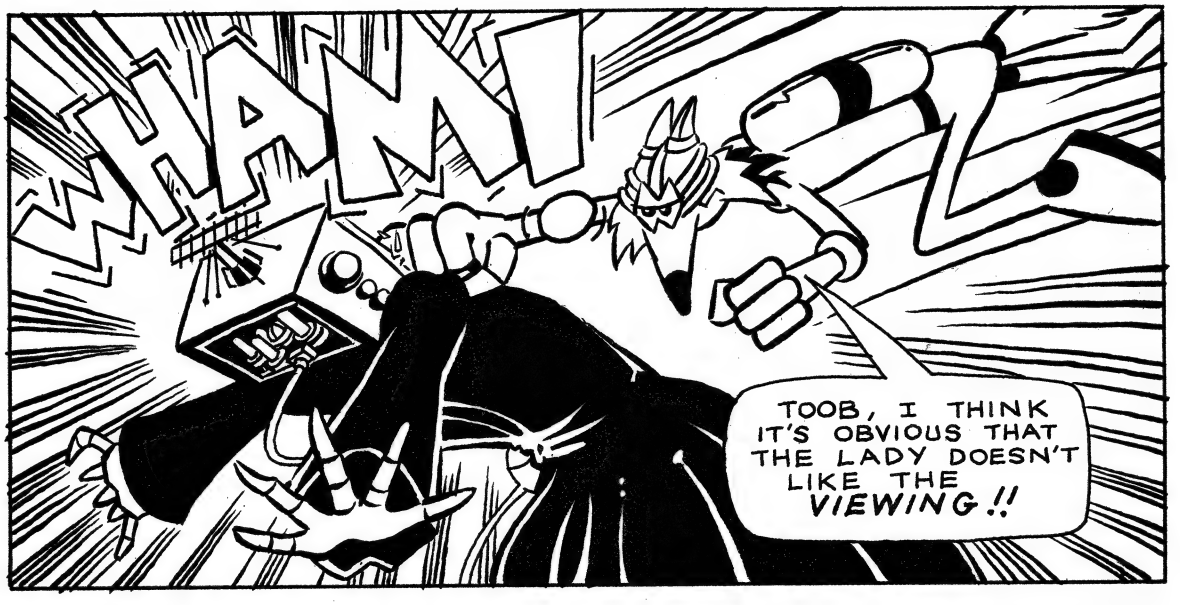
THAT EVENING WHEN SD AND HYDRO RETURN TO CAMP...
WHAT THE FUCK?!!
THE-PLACE-IS ALL-SHOT-UP!!
AND AMARA'S GONE! HERE'S THE BLANKET SHE WAS USIN'!
THIS COULDN'TA HAPPENED LONG AGO--SNIFF! SNIFF! THE TRAIL'S STILL WARM!!
THIS'S GOTTA BE THE WORK'A TOOB'S GOONS. AND I THINK I KNOW WHERE THEY TOOK HER!!
WHIRRR...
IN A RAGE, THE MIGHTY DOG OF SPACE LEAPS INTO THE BONE SHIP AND TAKES TO THE SKIES!!
I THINK WE'RE GONNA NEED THE BIG GUNS FOR THIS JOB, HYDRO--!!

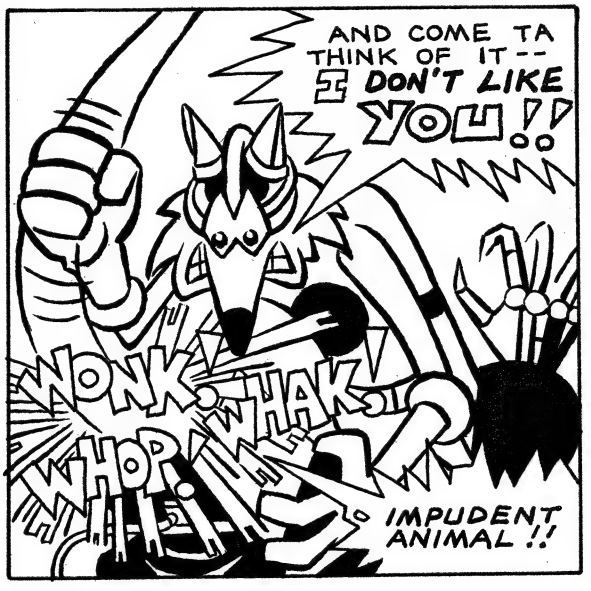

--'CAUSE I THINK WE'RE GONNA FIND AMARA --
--AT THE CENTER OF THIS GODDAMN MUDBALL !!
HOURS LATER, SD'S SHIP REACHES ITHAKA'S FIREY CORE -- TO FIND TOOB'S HEADQUARTERS ...
... A GREAT BLACK SCARAB OF A PALACE -- FLOATING IN A FORCE FIELD AT THE CENTER OF AN OCEAN OF WHITE-HOT ROCK VAPOR !!
JEZUS KAY-RIST !! TALK ABOUT YOUR IMPREGNABLE FORTRESS !!
IT'S LUCKY WE BUILT A FORCE FIELD PROJECTOR INTO THE SHIP OR IT'D BE INSTANT-VAPORVILLE FOR US, LITTLE BUDDY !


WHILE INSIDE THE BLACK CITADEL...
SO, MY DEAR AMARA, YOU ALONE AMONG MY LOYAL SUBJECTS HAVE SEEN FIT TO DISCARD MY LITTLE DREAM HELM...
... WITH THE HELP OF YOUR CANINE FRIEND...
WHERE IS THIS SO-CALLED SPACE DOG?!
I DON'T KNOW! AND IF I DID, I CERTAINLY WOULDN'T TELL YOU, YOU PLASTIC PIG!
WHAT?!!

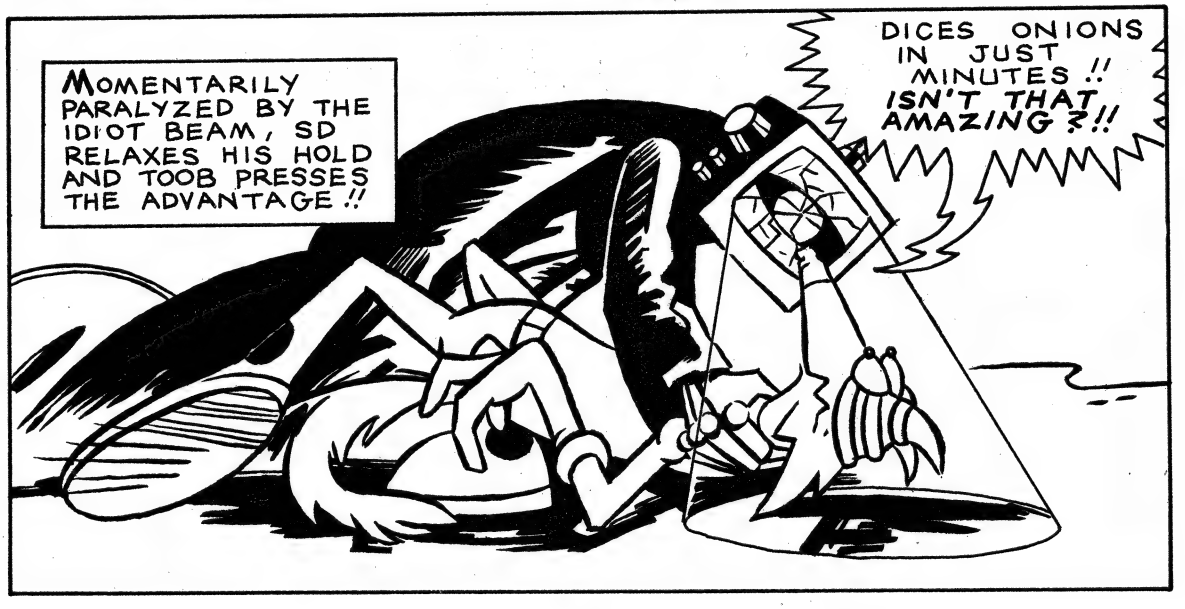

WELL PERHAPS YOU WILL THINK DIFFERENTLY AFTER YOU'VE BASKED IN THE GAZE OF TOOB!!
THE BEAM IS BOTH SEARINGLY HOT AND BONE-CHILLINGLY COLD...
IT PARALYZES THE BODY, AND NUMBS THE SOUL...
AND WORST OF ALL...
NO! NO! NOOO!
I'LL STAND ON MY HEAD TO MAKE YOU A BETTER DEAL!! I'LL THROW IN A BUCKET OF CHICKEN!! I'LL EAT A BUG!! ALL THESE SHIPS ARE FACTORY GUARANTEED!!
... IT'S SOLID COMMERCIALS.

BUT THE INTERROGATION IS TO BE CUT SHORT, AS...
HEADS UP, TOOB!! YA GOT COMPANY !!
KRUM
BUH
EH?!
GASP!
SPACE DOG!!


WHAM!
TOOB, I THINK IT'S OBVIOUS THAT THE LADY DOESN'T LIKE THE VIEWING!!


AND COME TA THINK OF IT -- I DON'T LIKE YOU!!
WONK
WHAK
WHOP
IMPUDENT ANIMAL!!

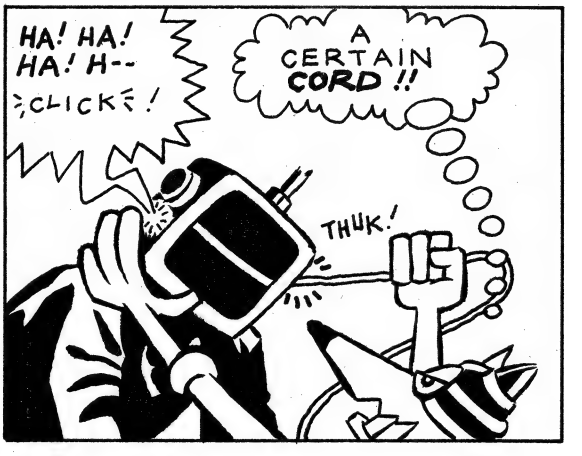
URK!
WE'LL SEE HOW YOU FARE UNDER TOOB'S GAZE!!


MOMENTARILY PARALYZED BY THE IDIOT BEAM, SD RELAXES HIS HOLD AND TOOB PRESSES THE ADVANTAGE!!
DICES ONIONS IN JUST MINUTES!! ISN'T THAT AMAZING?!!

TASTE THE FULL POWER OF MY BEAM, DOG --
SATURDAY MORNING CARTOONS!!
C-CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF THAT FREAKIN' SET...
AN' HE'S CHOKIN' ME!!

SO YOU SEE RAGGY, MR. MEAN WAS SHIPPING THE STOLEN OIL IN A SUBMARINE DISGUISED AS THE POTATO MONSTER!!
CAN'T TAKE MUCH MORE'A THIS...
I'M A GONER-- UNLESS...

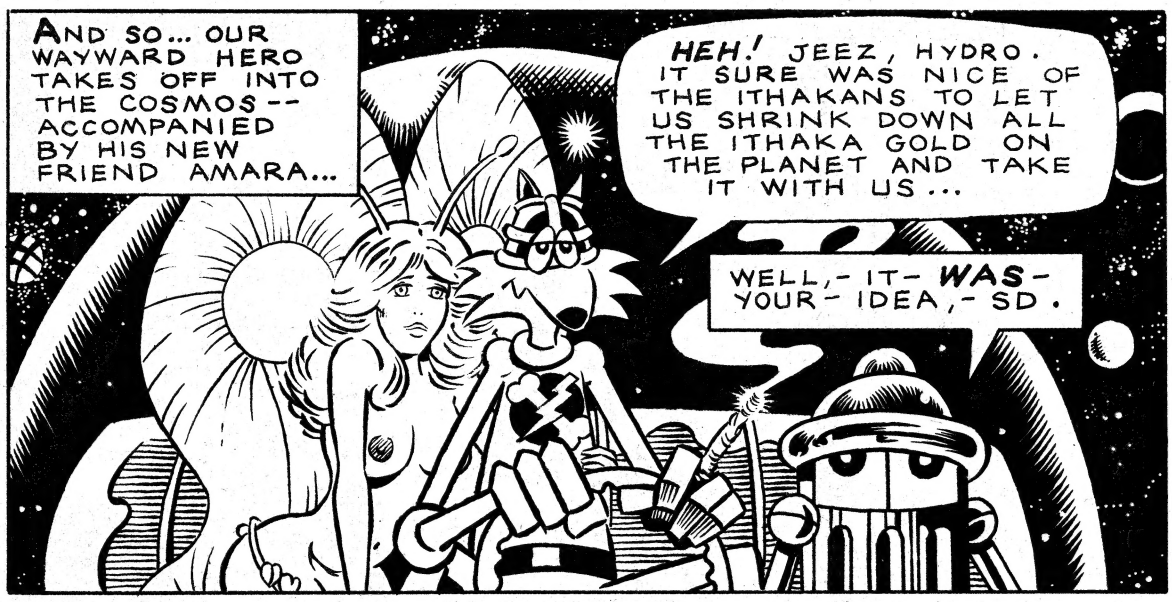
I CAN FIND...
GOIKS! WE SURE WERE STUPID, HUH, DOOB?! REAH!!
GROPE! GROPE!

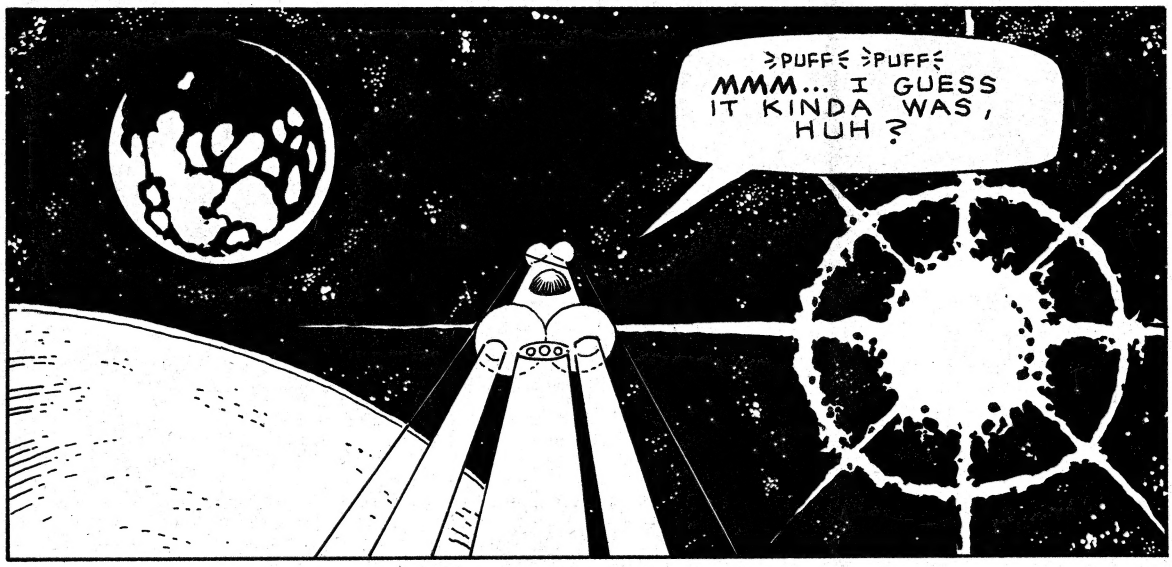

HA! HA! HA! H--
CLICK!
A CERTAIN CORD!!
THUK!

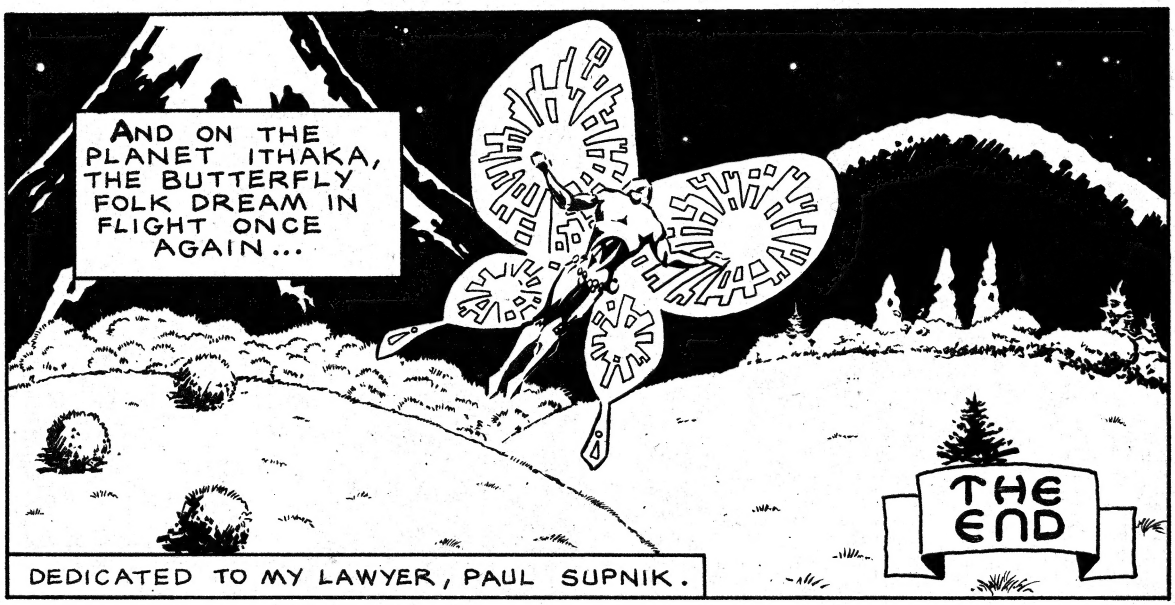
SO LONG, TOOB.
IT'S FUNNY SOMETIMES HOW SIMPLE THE ANSWER IS TO A REALLY BIG PROBLEM...

COURAGE, BABE! I'LL HAVE YA DOWN IN A SECOND!
WRENCH!
SOB! SOB!
THERE, THERE, SWEATHEART... IT'S ALL OVER NOW...
POOR KID'S BEEN THRU THE MILL... BETTER GET HER BACK TOPSIDE...

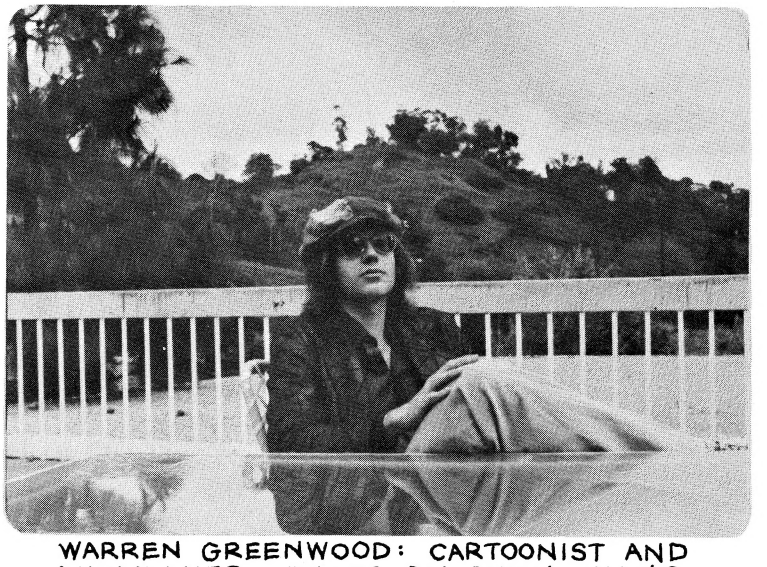
AND SO...
WITH TOOB CONKED OUT, HIS BULLY BOYS ALL STOPPED FUNCTIONIN' AND YOU FOLKS GOT YOUR FREE WILL AGAIN!
TRY TA KEEP IT THAT WAY, HEAR?
WE WILL BE FOREVER IN YOUR DEBT, SPACE DOG!
IF WE CAN EVER REPAY YOU...


AND SO... OUR WAYWARD HERO TAKES OFF INTO THE COSMOS -- ACCOMPANIED BY HIS NEW FRIEND AMARA...
HEH! JEEZ, HYDRO. IT SURE WAS NICE OF THE ITHAKANS TO LET US SHRINK DOWN ALL THE ITHAKA GOLD ON THE PLANET AND TAKE IT WITH US...
WELL,- IT- WAS- YOUR- IDEA,- SD.


PUFF PUFF
MMM... I GUESS IT KINDA WAS, HUH?


AND ON THE PLANET ITHAKA, THE BUTTERFLY FOLK DREAM IN FLIGHT ONCE AGAIN...
THE END
DEDICATED TO MY LAWYER, PAUL SUPNIK.

AFTERWORD:



WARREN GREENWOOD: CARTOONIST AND FILMMAKER • PHOTO BY SUZY CHANG

A VAMPIRE IS NOT YOUR FRIEND

NOTES ON A DOG & THE BOY WHO LOVED HIM

THE ***COSMIC CANINE*** WAS BORN ON A BUS ON THE WAY TO WORK. WORK WAS A BIG CARTOON FACTORY WHICH WE WON'T NAME BUT WILL SIMPLY REFER TO AS ***HANNA-BARBERA PRODUCTIONS, INC.***

SD MADE HIS SCREEN DEBUT IN A FILM ENTITLED SPACE DOG IN "***SCRAMBLED METAL***" [35 MM COLOR, 6½ MIN., SILENT, ANIMATED] WHICH I DIRECTED WHILE ATTENDING THE HB NIGHT CLASS.

THE STUDIO CHEESE LIKED IT. THEY WANTED TO DEVELOP THE FILM'S CONCEPTS / DOG AS A POSSIBLE SERIES; WANTED ME TO WORK ON IT AS A DESIGNER. THEY PLANNED TO USE OUR FILM TO SELL THE IDEA TO THE NETWORKS. THEY ASKED ME TO BARE MY NECK. SUDDENLY-- I NOTICED THE CALIFORNIA SUN GLINTING OFF THEIR FANGS!

I TOLD THEM THAT ***SD*** WAS A PART OF ME, CASUALLY SLIPPING A CRUCIFIX OUT OF MY POCKET. IF THEY WERE GONNA PUT MY DOG ON TV, I WANTED SCREEN CREDIT AND MONEY. GUARANTEED IN WRITING.

THEY GOT REAL MAD ABOUT THE WRITING PART.

I WAS QUIETLY SHUFFLED TO ANOTHER ASSIGNMENT, NOT KNOWING IF THEY HAD DROPPED THE PROJECT OR WHAT.

MY LAWYER SUGGESTED I PUBLISH ***SD*** IN A BOOK TO GET A COPYRIGHT ON HIM. SLEEPLESS NIGHTS. FLUTTER OF BAT WINGS. VOICES ECHOING, "WE WANT THE ***DOOOOOOOOGGG!!***"

EVENTUALLY THE BOOK GOT DONE. AND I LEFT HB FOR A FRIENDLIER STUDIO.

NOW YOU KNOW THE TRUTH. THERE IS ONLY ONE SPACE DOG.

ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES.

BEST WISHES
TO ALL MY
FANS!! FROM
SPACE DOG™
&
HYDRO™